

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, October 9, 2013

POLITICAL GRIDLOCK

Jonathan Weisman

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WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama on Tuesday intensified his pressure on Republicans with a hastily scheduled news conference, calling on them to fund and reopen the government and to raise the nation's borrowing limit as the federal shutdown entered a second week.



Speaker of the House Rep. John Boehner, R-Ohio, speaks on the ongoing budget battle on Capitol Hill on Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013 in Washington.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

"Let's lift these threats from our families and our businesses, and let's get down to work," Obama said in the White House briefing room before taking questions from reporters.

Obama said he was holding firm that he cannot negotiate concessions to the Republican-led House for it to perform Congress' constitutional responsibilities.

"I am happy to talk with him and other Republicans about anything," Obama said of House Speaker John A. Boehner, "not just issues I think are important, but also issues that they think are important. But I also told him that having such a conversation, talks, negotiations shouldn't require hanging the threats of a government shutdown over the heads of the American people."

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A schoolgirl outside the Orchard Gardens K-8 School Roxbury district of Boston. School-bus drivers in the city of Boston took parents and city officials by surprise Tuesday with a work stoppage that left thousands of the city's 33,000 school children stranded at home or at bus stops.

(Gretchen Ertl/The New York Times)

School-bus drivers walk off the job in Boston

KATHARINE Q. SEELYE

JESS BIDGOOD

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BOSTON - School-bus drivers in the city of Boston took parents and city officials by surprise Tuesday with a work stoppage that left thousands of the city's 33,000 school children stranded at home or at bus stops.

Some children were driven to school by their parents. In some cases, Boston police officers in their patrol cars and vans picked up students who were strand-

ed at bus stops and drove them to school.

It was not clear how many students made it to school Tuesday; about 30 of the city's 650 buses continued to operate.

While city officials, who called the strike illegal, expressed hope early Tuesday that they could resolve it in time for buses to take the children home in the afternoon, that hope quickly faded and city officials said they would seek an injunction ordering drivers back to work

by Wednesday morning. Officials canceled all after-school athletic events.

The bus drivers, who recently signed a contract, were protesting measures taken by the city's new transit partner, Veolia Transportation, that they said impinged on their ability to do their jobs.

Officials representing the bus drivers said Veolia had changed their work conditions and failed to alert them to new route information, often making them late.

Drivers were unhappy with changes in their health care plan and also said they did not like a new smartphone app that allows parents to track the location of the buses.

It was not clear whether the strike was instigated by a small group of disgruntled drivers.

The United Steelworkers, which oversees the bus drivers, distanced itself from the action and urged the drivers back to work.

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At APEC Summit, Pacific Rim leaders urge new focus on global trade talks

JANE PERLEZ

JOE COCHRANE

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NUSA DUA, Indonesia - Leaders at the Pacific Rim economic summit declared at the end of their two-day meeting here Tuesday that the global trade talks, known as the Doha round, were at an

two days of meetings, dinners and lunches attended by the leaders of 21 economies in the Pacific Rim region, Taiwan and Hong Kong. Several officials acknowledged that the gathering, held in the luxurious confines of the beach resort of Nusa Dua on the Indonesian island

But in fact, Bolland added, an agreement has to be reached by early November, a month before a gathering of 159 trade ministers in Bali in early December. These ministers rarely engage in the nitty-gritty negotiations, he said. The logjam over the Doha round has allowed efforts



United States Secretary of State John Kerry, right, speaks with Russian President Vladimir Putin during a Family Photo at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Bali, Indonesia, Monday, Oct. 7, 2013.

"impasse" and urged trade ministers, due to meet here in December, to get negotiations back on track. In a strongly worded statement, the leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, suggested the talks, run by the World Trade Organization and designed to reduce tariffs, particularly for the least developed countries, risked collapse.

"We are now at the 11th hour to put the negotiating function of the World Trade Organization back on track," said the statement, which was read by the host of the summit meeting, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono of Indonesia.

The meeting was clouded by the absence of President Barack Obama, who stayed in Washington to try to resolve the fiscal crisis. Without Obama, who was represented by Secretary of State John Kerry, a brighter spotlight fell on China's new president, Xi Jinping. There was relatively little to show for the

of Bali, produced even fewer substantive accomplishments than last year's meeting, where the group approved an environmental goods and services accord that called for the tariffs on 54 products, like solar panels, to be reduced to 5 percent or less. Still, the urgency of rescuing the Doha round from collapse caught the summit meeting's attention, said Allan Bolland, executive director of the APEC Secretariat, which is based in Singapore. "There's a strong message they really want Doha to work, but there's also at the same time quite a high expectation with real big problems around it and something of a sense of frustration about that," he said.

"In realistic terms, they are feeling that there has to be some deliverables out of Doha - an expectation that there could be a 'Doha Light.' They could go in a number of different ways in the next couple of months."

at regional trade agreements like the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a group of 12 countries led by the United States in negotiations designed to lower tariffs across a broad range of items, to gain steam instead. At the end of the summit meeting, the U.S. trade representative, Michael Froman, met with trade ministers from the involved countries to urge completing the Trans-Pacific Partnership by the White House's target of the end of the year. After that session, the White House released a statement saying the leaders of the 12 nations announced they were "on track to complete the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations." Ministers and negotiators have made "significant progress in recent months on all the legal texts and annexes on access to our respective goods, services, investment, financial services, government procurement and temporary entry markets," the statement said. □

International Monetary Fund cuts forecasting for global expansion

ANNIE LOWREY

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WASHINGTON - Emerging economies have cooled off. Europe remains in the doldrums. The United States is facing fiscal uncertainty, and its powerful central bank is contemplating easing up on its extraordinary stimulus efforts, with potentially global ramifications. As a result, global growth is in "low gear," the International Monetary Fund said in its latest economic forecasts, released Tuesday as the world's central bankers and finance ministers gather in Washington for the fund's annual meetings.

The IMF, the Washington-based lending institution, cut its forecasts for global growth, as it has done in 9 of its last 10 economic updates. It now foresees the world economy increasing by about 2.9 percent in 2013 and 3.6 percent in 2014. That is down from 5.4 percent in 2007, before the global recession hit.

More risks remain, like "prolonged sluggish growth," which the IMF has indicated could translate into lower living standards and higher rates of joblessness for hundreds of millions around the world.

"Quantitative indicators point to no major change to risks over the near term," the IMF said. "The qualitative assessment is that uncertainty has increased again." Overall, developed economies have strengthened whereas emerging economies have weakened, the fund said. The United States' private sector has posted better numbers, and some European countries have stopped contracting, though growth across the continent remains weak.

"Growth is looking up, financial stability is returning and fiscal accounts are looking healthier," Christine Lagarde, the fund's managing director, said of developed economies at a speech this month in Washington. "Nowhere is it and I hope will it be clearer than in the United States. We see it all around us," she said, citing improvements in housing and household finances. Yet growth in those wealthier countries remains anemic - just 1.6 percent in the United States and 1.4 percent in Britain, with a 0.4 percent contraction in the euro area. Financial problems and recessions in Europe continue to weigh down the rest of the world, the fund said. In Washington, budgetary turmoil has introduced new strains, including the partial government shutdown and fears that the United States might default on its debt. If the Federal Reserve pulls back, or tapers, its major bond-buying program, the global economy may also be at risk.

"U.S. monetary policy is reaching a turning point, and this has led to an unexpectedly large increase in long-term yields in the United States and many other economies," the fund said. "This change could pose risks for emerging market economies, where activity is slowing and asset quality weakening."

Japan and China are facing major hurdles in their economies, the fund's economists said. The IMF sees the Japanese economy expanding about 2 percent this year and 1.2 percent next year. The country's fiscal and monetary stimulus efforts have helped jolt the economy out of deflation, but any tightening might lead to slower growth next year, the fund said.

The fund now expects China to expand about 7.6 percent this year, 0.2 percentage point lower than the estimate in July. The fund has urged the Chinese government to hasten its attempts to shift from an investment- and exports-reliant economy to a more balanced one, with increased domestic consumption. And it has warned that China's downshift might affect other countries, "notably the commodity exporters among the emerging market and developing economies." □

Shutdown heads south; Antarctic teams shuttered

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. federal government shutdown is reaching all the way down to the South Pole.

The National Science Foundation announced Tuesday that it is putting its three Antarctic scientific stations in deep freeze just as scientists are starting to arrive for the start of a new research season.

The NSF runs three stations in Antarctica spending just under \$400 million a year there. It often takes weeks for some 1200 researchers who spend Antarctic spring and summer there to get to the southern continent by boat or plane.

"This is absurd, just absurd," said Alan Leshner, chief executive officer of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the nation's largest science organization. "It's a very big logistical enterprise and this could jeopardize the entire research season for hundreds of important projects."

Researchers study astronomy, particle physics, climate change, and biology in the pristine continent, usually starting in October when the weather warms in the southern spring.

The largest station is McMurdo but there are also stations at the South Pole and the Antarctic peninsula.

In a terse statement on its website, the NSF announced that "all field and research activities not essential to human safety and preservation of property will be suspended" because the agency runs out of money to operate the stations as of Oct. 14. The agency told its logistics contractor, Lockheed Martin Corp., to move to "caretaker status" in which a skeletal crew will remain to protect property and safety.

If funding resumes, officials will try to resume some research. However, some studies cannot be restarted, the NSF said. □

Obama calls Boehner as GOP meet yields little

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"Think about it this way," he added. "The American people do not get to demand a ransom for doing their jobs."

Obama had phoned Boehner earlier Tuesday to urge him to allow a House vote on a budget bill without conditions, as Boehner called on the president to come to the negotiating table to resolve a spending standoff that has shuttered the government for eight days.

The competing pushes by the president and Boehner came after a closed-door meeting of House Republicans produced no new offers to resolve the spending stalemate and no plan for what to do about the fact that the federal government is set to hit its borrowing limit next week.

According to the White House, the president again told Boehner that he was willing to negotiate, but only after the "threat of government shutdown and default have been removed." The White House said that areas the president would be willing to discuss included "how to strengthen the Affordable Care Act and continue to reduce the nation's deficit."

The speaker's office said the call broke no new ground. "The president called the speaker again today to reiterate that he won't negotiate on a government funding bill or debt limit increase," said Brendan Buck, a spokesman for Boehner.

Even as Boehner's office put out word of the call, Buck declined to say how the speaker had responded to the president.

More than a week into the shutdown and nine days

from a possible debt default, House Republicans emerged from their meeting with a united demand: They will make no move to resolve either crisis until Obama extends an olive branch.

"Refusing to negotiate is an untenable position," Boehner said.

Rep. Kevin McCarthy of

to work out a broad deal to reduce the deficit and overhaul entitlement programs before the statutory borrowing limit must be raised.

"We're already living hand-to-mouth, and have for the last three years," he said. "Why do we want to make the problem even worse?"

mic. The government shutdown has already rattled world stock markets, sending investors fleeing to the safe harbor of U.S. Treasury bonds. But that safe harbor is predicated on the fact that for all of U.S. history, the full faith and credit of the government has not been brought into question.



President Barack Obama gestures as he leaves after speaking about the the budget and the partial government shutdown, Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013, in the Brady Press Room of the White House in Washington. The president said he told House Speaker John Boehner he's willing to negotiate with Republicans on their priorities, but not under the threat of "economic chaos."

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

California, the No. 3 House Republican, said: "Mr. President, give a call. We're ready to answer."

If that is meant to raise the political pressure on Democrats, they showed little sign of backing down on their position that to compromise over the basic functions of financing the government and preventing a default would only encourage more crises and more hostage-taking. Complicating matters is a Republican contention that the Oct. 17 deadline for a debt ceiling increase is fluid at best, and possibly mythical. Rep. John Fleming, R-La., said lawmakers "have plenty of time"

Some Republicans continue to say the Treasury is receiving ample tax revenues every day to pay off creditors and avoid a default. Additional government services might close and contracts might be suspended as the administration prioritizes debt servicing, they say, but an actual crisis is far off.

"It's like everything else here," said Rep. Trent Franks, R-Ariz. "People on both sides of every argument seem to employ hyperbole when they could just state the truth and it would still be of significant consequence."

Most economists say a default would be cataclysmic.

A default could shatter that confidence, send interest rates skyrocketing as investors in Treasury notes demand a premium for their purchases, and crater a fragile economic recovery. But after assuring lawmakers privately that such a crisis would never happen, Boehner is now drawing a harder line. In the meeting Tuesday, he told lawmakers that it would be "irresponsible" to allow the government to borrow more before locking in changes to the health care law and entitlements like Medicare and Social Security that would bring down spending over the long term. □

US regulators discussing coming debt-limit deadline

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew held a conference call Tuesday with members of the Financial Stability Oversight Council to discuss the deadline for raising Ameri-

ca's borrowing limit. Treasury spokesman Anthony Coley says Lew discussed the Oct. 17 date by which time Lew has said he'll have exhausted the accounting steps he's used to prevent the government from breaching its \$16.7

trillion debt limit. Lew has warned that soon afterward, the government will be forced into default if the borrowing limit isn't raised. Coley says Congress' failure to raise the debt limit "could severely impact financial markets and the

broader economy." Coley says the council, which includes regulators of Wall Street and other financial markets, discussed what officials were hearing from market participants about how a default could affect markets. □

School-bus drivers walk off the job in Boston



Students aboard a bus in Boston. School-bus drivers in the city of Boston took parents and city officials by surprise Tuesday with a work stoppage that left thousands of the city's 33,000 school children stranded at home or at bus stops.

(Gretchen Ertl/The New York Times)

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An irate Mayor Thomas M. Menino said the stoppage was illegal and threatened to take disciplinary measures, although he did not specify what steps he might take. He vowed that the buses would be running Wednesday morning. "Today's actions are a result of a group of angry people who don't like to follow the rules," Menino told reporters. "They've agreed to a contract, a very good contract, and now they don't want to live up to that contract."

The city learned of the strike at 5 a.m. Tuesday during rallies at two local bus depots. Menino said the city had heard "rumblings" about driver dissatisfaction but did not know whether or when the drivers would walk off the job.

The interim school superintendent, John McDonough, put it a little differently: "We had indications the same as we had over the past several weeks that there might be action taken any day." Still, he said the stoppage Tuesday had caught officials by surprise.

McDonough confirmed that the bus-tracking app, which uses a GPS system, was at least part of the is-

sue.

"The union had objected to our implementing this type of technology," he said.

The smartphone app was unveiled recently as a way for parents to know more precisely when the buses would be arriving and as a safety measure in case of accidents or other problems. But the drivers saw it as too much "Big Brother" control over them and demanded on their union website: "Stop employer abuse of anti-labor Global Positioning System spy devices."

The action disrupted the lives of many families who depend on the school buses.

Myisha Johniken, 25, said she had waited with her autistic son for half an hour at the bus stop in front of her home in the Grove Hall section of the Dorchester neighborhood, unaware of the strike. When she learned of the strike, Johniken had to take him to school on a city bus, which distressed him.

"He's all discombobulated because of this," said his grandmother, Kathleen Brown, 49. "Because of his autism, if you break his routine, he's messed up the rest of the day because of this." □

Obama to nominate Yellen as Bernanke replacement

JIM KUHNHENN

M. CRUTSINGER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama will nominate Federal Reserve vice chair Janet Yellen to succeed Ben Bernanke as chairman of the U.S. central bank, the White House said Tuesday. Yellen would be the first woman to head the powerful Fed, taking over at a pivotal time for the economy and the banking industry. Both Yellen and Bernanke are scheduled to appear with Obama at the White House on Wednesday for a formal announcement. Bernanke's term ends in January, completing a remarkable eight-year tenure in which he helped pull the U.S.

economy out of the worst financial crisis and recession since the 1930s.

Under Bernanke's leadership, the Fed created extraordinary programs after the financial crisis erupted in 2008. It lent money to banks after credit markets froze, cut its key short-term interest rate to near zero and bought trillions in bonds to lower long-term borrowing rates. Those programs are credited with helping save the U.S. banking system. Yellen emerged as the leading candidate after Lawrence Summers, a former Treasury secretary whom Obama was thought to favor, withdrew from consideration last month in the face of rising opposition. □

Pilots, airline fault equipment in Asiana crash



Photo shows the wreckage of the Asiana Flight 214 airplane after it crashed at the San Francisco International Airport in San Francisco. The pilots of Asiana Flight 214, as well as the airline, are raising the possibility that a key device that controls the Boeing 777's speed may have malfunctioned, an aviation expert familiar with the investigation into the crash said Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013.

(AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez)

JOAN LOWY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The pilots of Asiana Flight 214 that crashed in San Francisco in July, as well as the airline, are raising the possibility that a key device that controls the Boeing 777's speed may have malfunctioned, an aviation expert familiar with the investigation into the crash said Tuesday. National Transportation Safety Board Chairman Deborah Hersman said early in the crash investigation that her experts had found no mechanical problems with the plane, but were investigating further. One of the three pilots in the Asiana cockpit told investigators after the accident that he thought the plane's automatic throttle was maintaining speed as the plane descended to land, but later discovered it wasn't sending power to the engine, Hersman told reporters in briefings following the accident.

The autothrottle controls engine power and thus speed. Without enough speed, a plane can lose lift and sink quickly. In the case of Flight 214, the plane was flying low and slow as pilots attempted to land. The 777's landing gear struck a seawall just short of the runway. The impact ripped off the back of the plane, tossed out three flight attendants and their seats and scattered pieces of the jet across the runway as it spun and skidded to a stop. There are many ways in which a pilot can engage and then inadvertently disengage an autothrottle. But the South Korean air carrier and the pilots involved have raised the possibility with investigators that the autothrottle disengaged on its own, said the expert, who spoke only on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak publicly about the matter.

There have been previous incidents involving other

Boeing planes — 757s, 767s and newer 737s — in which automatic throttles that were engaged have disengaged for no known reason, the expert said.

Boeing spokesman Bret Jensen declined to comment, saying that as a party to the investigation the aircraft maker is prohibited from speaking publicly about the accident.

The Asiana pilots' contention that the autothrottle may have malfunctioned was first reported by The Wall Street Journal.

NTSB investigators have left open whether the autothrottle was ever fully engaged. Inspectors found that the autothrottle had been "armed," or made ready for activation, Hersman said in her early briefings. □

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US to follow humane tactics questioning al-Libi

EILEEN SULLIVAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Aboard a Navy warship, U.S. investigators are likely playing good cop/bad cop, shouting and bang-

Press, speaking on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss the ongoing operation.

"We know that al-Libi planned and helped ex-

military custody under the law of war, which means he can be captured and held indefinitely as an enemy combatant. He has long been sought for his role in the 1998 bombings

office that some of the tactics that had been used in previous years weren't going to be used anymore," Harf said. Those tactics include hooding prisoners, stripping them naked and forcing them to perform or mimic sexual acts, beating or electrocuting them or subjecting them to mock executions.

But the approved techniques are only good if there is good supervision, said Steve Kleinman, a former U.S. military senior interrogator.

"The more we keep it hidden and the more we make it look like a dark art, that's the impression we're going to give the world," Kleinman said.

Some Republicans in Congress, however, say the allowed techniques don't go far enough, and al-Libi should be sent to Guantanamo Bay for indefinite questioning.

It was unclear if or when al-Libi would be brought to the U.S. to face charges.

The Obama administration publicly debuted the naval ship interrogation tactic in 2011 when it captured Ahmed Abdulkadir Warsame, a Somali citizen who the U.S. government said helped support and train al-Qaida-linked militants. Warsame was questioned aboard a U.S. warship for two months before he went to New York to face terrorism charges. He pleaded guilty earlier this year and agreed to tell the FBI what he knew about terror threats and, if necessary, testify for the government.

The interrogators sent to question al-Libi are part the same group that questioned Warsame — the High-Value Detainee Interrogation Group. □



Sen. Lindsay Graham, R-S.C., gestures during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013, to discuss the capture of terrorism suspect Abu Anas al-Libi. Graham joined fellow senators asking the Obama administration to send al-Libi to Guantanamo Bay detention center for interrogation rather than sending him to New York for a trial.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

ing their hands on a table to get suspected al-Qaida operative Abu Anas al-Libi to give up key intelligence. That's what they're allowed to do, anyway. What interrogators shouldn't be doing is putting a hood over al-Libi's head, waterboarding him or depriving him of food.

The Obama administration would only say that al-Libi was being treated "humanely" as he is held on the USS San Antonio after he was captured in a raid in Libya over the weekend. A team of U.S. investigators from the military and intelligence agencies and the Justice Department has been sent to question him, two law enforcement officials told The Associated

ecute plots that killed hundreds of people," Obama told a news conference Tuesday. "We have strong evidence of that, and he will be brought to justice." While the U.S. once held people in secret prisons, questioned them over long periods of time, put duct tape over their eyes or forced them to strip naked, the Obama administration has swapped the secret "black sites" for warships, acknowledged the capture and detention of a wanted terrorist and promised to stick to approved interrogation tactics like making sure the detainee has four hours of continuous sleep in a 24-hour period. Al-Libi is being detained in

of U.S. embassies in Africa and has been under indictment since 2000.

"For the most part, the Obama administration has made positive steps, banned the most abusive techniques and prohibited torture," said Laura Pitter, counterterrorism adviser at Human Rights Watch. But some of the 19 allowed techniques defined in the Army Field Manual can still be problematic, she said. And, Pitter said, al-Libi should be brought to federal court to face his charges.

State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said al-Libi is being treated humanely.

"The president made it clear when he came into

Police:
Rail commuters
on phones didn't
notice
small gun

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A man flashed a gun several times on a crowded commuter train in San Francisco, but passengers were so absorbed in their phones and tablets they didn't notice until he randomly shot and killed a university student, authorities said.

Security video footage showed the gunman pull out the .45-caliber pistol, raise it and point it across the aisle before putting it back against his side, authorities told the San Francisco Chronicle (<http://bit.ly/1crPYQc>) in a story on Monday.

The man drew the gun several more times and once wiped his nose with the hand holding the weapon. "These weren't concealed movements — the gun is very clear," District Attorney George Gascon said.

"These people are in very close proximity with him, and nobody sees this. They're just so engrossed, texting and reading and whatnot."

They're completely oblivious of their surroundings." Authorities declined a request by The Associated Press for the surveillance footage, citing an ongoing investigation.

San Francisco police officials say people who pay too much attention to digital technology are also vulnerable to theft.

"Oftentimes when you interview people who get their phones stolen, when you ask them to describe where the person came from, what he was wearing, they have no idea," said police Chief Greg Suhr. □

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US adults score below average on worldwide test

KIMBERLY HEFLING

AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — In math, reading and problem-solving using technology — all skills considered critical for global competitiveness and econom-

ers and how hard it is to move ahead when your parents haven't. In both reading and math, for example, those with college educated parents did better than those whose parents did not complete

among the hardest hit by the recession and debt crisis, ranked at the bottom across generations. Unemployment is well over 25 percent in Spain and over 12 percent in Italy. Spain has drastically cut educa-

est level, and those with low literacy skills were more than twice as likely to be unemployed.

"It's not just the kids who require more and more preparation to get access to the economy, it's more and more the adults don't have the skills to stay in it," said Anthony Carnevale, director of the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce.

Education Secretary Arne Duncan said in a statement the nation needs to find ways to reach more adults to upgrade their skills. Otherwise, he said, "no matter how hard they work, these adults will be stuck, unable to support their families and contribute fully to our country."

Among the other findings: —Americans scored toward the bottom in the category of problem solving in a technology rich environment. The top five scores in the areas were from Japan, Finland, Australia, Sweden and Norway, while the U.S. score was on par with England, Estonia, Ireland and Poland. In nearly all countries, at least 10 percent of adults lacked the most basic of computer skills such as using a mouse.

—Japanese and Dutch adults who were ages 25 to 34 and only completed high school easily outperformed Italian or Spanish university graduates of the same age.

—In England, Germany, Italy, Poland, and the United States, social background has a big impact on literacy skills, meaning the children of parents with low levels of education have lower reading skills.

America's school kids have historically scored low on international assessment

tests compared to other countries, which is often blamed on the diversity of the population and the high number of immigrants. Also, achievement tests have long shown that a large chunk of the U.S. student population lacks basic reading and math skills — most pronounced among low-income and minority students.

This test could suggest students leaving high school without certain basic skills aren't obtaining them later on the job or in an education program.

The United States will have a tough time catching up because money at the state and local level, a major source of education funding, has been slashed in recent years, said Jacob Kirkegaard, an economist with the Peterson Institute for International Economics. "There is a race between man and machine here. The question here is always: Are you a worker for whom technology makes it possible to do a better job or are you a worker that the technology can replace?" he said.

For those without the most basic skills, he said, the answer will be merciless and has the potential to extend into future generations. Learning is highly correlated with parents' education level. "If you want to avoid having an underclass — a large group of people who are basically unemployable — this educational system is absolutely key," Kirkegaard said.

Dolores Perin, professor of psychology and education at Teachers College, Columbia University, said the report provides a "good basis for an argument there should be more resources to support adults with low literacy." □



Brian Huey leads a geometry lesson with his fourth grade class at Burlington Elementary School in Longmont, Colo. In math, reading and problem-solving using technology — all skills considered critical for global competitiveness and economic strength — American adults scored below the international average on a global test, according to results released Tuesday.

(Matthew Staver/The New York Times)

ic strength — American adults scored below the international average on a global test, according to results released Tuesday. Adults in Japan, Canada, Australia, Finland and multiple other countries scored significantly higher than the United States in all three areas on the test. Beyond basic reading and math, respondents were tested on activities such as calculating mileage reimbursement due to a salesman, sorting email and comparing food expiration dates on grocery store tags.

Not only did Americans score poorly compared to many international competitors, the findings reinforced just how large the gap is between American high- and low-skilled work-

high school.

The study, called the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, found that it was easier on average to overcome this and other barriers to literacy overseas than in the United States. Researchers tested about 166,000 people ages 16 to 65 in more than 20 countries and subnational regions. The test was developed and released by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, which is made up of mostly industrialized member countries. The Education Department's Center for Education Statistics participated.

The findings were equally grim for many European countries — Italy and Spain,

tion spending, drawing student street protests.

But in the northern European countries that have fared better, the picture was brighter — and the study credits continuing education. In Finland, Denmark, and the Netherlands, more than 60 percent of adults took part in either job training or continuing education. In Italy, by contrast, the rate was half that. As the American economy sputters along and many people live paycheck-to-paycheck, economists say a highly-skilled workforce is key to economic recovery. The median hourly wage of workers scoring on the highest level in literacy on the test is more than 60 percent higher than for workers scoring at the low-

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Libya PM says US raid won't hurt ties

ESAM MOHAMED

Associated Press

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Relations between Tripoli and Washington will not be hurt by the U.S. raid that seized an al-Qaida suspect from

the bombing of American embassies in Tanzania and Kenya in 1998, with a \$5 million bounty on his head. Immediately after the raid, the government issued a statement saying the raid

and reasonable manner taking into account Libyans' rights and preserving relations."

U.S. officials say al-Libi was immediately taken out of the country and is now



Morocco's Prime Minister Abdelilah Benkirane, left, and his Libyan counterpart Ali Zeidan arrive for a press conference in Rabat, Morocco, Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013. Libya's prime minister, on a visit to Morocco, has stressed the importance of relations with the U.S. but maintains that Libyans have the right to be tried for crimes at home. (AP Photo/Abdeljalil Bounhar)

the Libyan capital, Libyan leaders said Tuesday, as they requested Washington allow the family of the detainee — now being held on a U.S. warship — to establish contact with him. The comments reflected the predicament of Libya's weak central government after U.S. special forces snatched Nazih Abdul-Hamed al-Ruqai, known by his alias Anas al-Libi, on Saturday. The leadership is wary of criticizing its needed ally, the United States, but it also is trying to counter anger among powerful Islamic extremists at home who accuse the government of allowing or even colluding in the abduction of a Libyan citizen.

Al-Libi is alleged to be a senior al-Qaida member and is wanted by the United States in connection to

was carried out without its knowledge and asking Washington for "clarifications" about the operation. In his first public comments since the raid, Prime Minister Ali Zeidan insisted that Libyan citizens should be tried in their homeland if they are accused of crimes and vowed, "Libya does not surrender its sons."

But Zeidan said the incident won't hurt ties with Washington. "The US was very helpful to Libya during the revolution and the relations should not be affected by an incident, even if it is a serious one," he said at a press conference with his Moroccan counterpart Abdelilah Benkirane during a three-day visit to Rabat. He said the justice minister has been examining "different legal options to solve this problem in a wise

held in a U.S. warship for questioning.

In Tripoli, Justice Minister Salah al-Marghani said he has met with the U.S. ambassador to Libya to inquire about details of the seizure. Al-Marghani said that while the abduction was illegal according to Libyan laws, al-Libi is now in U.S. custody and will be subject to its justice system. "We will focus on human and citizen rights and on the necessity that he gets a fair trial," al-Marghani told reporters. "The government is putting higher national interests in mind."

He said he asked the U.S. diplomat that the family of al-Libi be allowed to speak with him by telephone wherever he is and eventually visit him, and that the Red Cross be allowed to see him. □

Diplomat's arrest in The Hague raises Russian-Dutch tensions

LAURA

TOBY STERLING

Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin demanded Tuesday that the Netherlands apologize for arresting a Russian diplomat, further straining relations between the countries after Moscow decided to put some Greenpeace activists on trial. The tensions come during a year meant to celebrate the countries' historic ties.

The diplomat, Dmitry Borodin, was arrested by Dutch police in The Hague late Saturday, and he has accused the police of even pulling his one-year-old daughter's hair as they took him and both his children to the station. Borodin, whose title is minister-counselor, gave his version of events on his Twitter account. He said the arrest came even though he identified himself and said he had diplomatic immunity.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Alexander Lukashevich said Borodin had been arrested over an "absolutely contrived" allegation of child abuse, and that the Dutch ambassador to Russia had been summoned to the ministry in Moscow to receive an "official protest" over the case. The Netherlands' Foreign Ministry said an "incident occurred with a Russian diplomat that led to an arrest by the Dutch police" and that it is under review.

Speaking from the APEC summit in Bali, Indonesia, Putin described the arrest as a "rude violation" of treaties on diplomatic relations. The Dutch ministerial statement, while not exactly conciliatory, said, "If

it emerges from the investigation that actions were taken in conflict with the Vienna Treaty on Diplomatic Relations, the Netherlands will apologize to Russia."

The timing of the disputed arrest is sensitive.

On Sept. 18, the Russian coast guard seized the Dutch-flagged ship Arctic Sunrise after Greenpeace activists used it to stage a demonstration at an offshore oil platform owned by Gazprom. Last week, the Russians charged all 30 on board the ship with piracy — which carries a maximum sentence of 15 years.

Dutch Foreign Minister Frans Timmermans said Friday that he would seek to recover the ship at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, based in Hamburg, Germany, because it wasn't clear whether the ship's seizure was legal. He said he would seek the release of the 30 detainees, among them activists and journalists, via diplomatic channels. Greenpeace, meanwhile, staged demonstrations around the world over the weekend calling for the release of the "Arctic 30," who are being held in the northern Russian city of Murmansk. A Murmansk court on Tuesday denied bail to two of the activists and a freelance photographer who was with them.

According to Borodin's Twitter account, men he took to be Dutch police entered his home late Saturday night after he had refused them entry, that he identified himself and told them he enjoyed diplomatic immunity. The Russian diplomat said they handcuffed him anyway and knocked him in the head. □



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Egypt general leaves open question of election run

MAGGIE MICHAEL
 Associated Press

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's powerful army chief left open the possibility of running

the interview to be published the next day.

He said attention must not be distracted from carrying out "the map for the fu-

si demonstrators. Officials and allied media have depicted the Brotherhood and its Islamist allies as a threat to the nation,



Egyptians wave national flags, and one holds a poster showing Egyptian Defense Minister Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, center, and former presidents Anwar Sadat, left, and Gamal Abdel-Nasser, right, during celebrations marking the 6th of October war anniversary, in Tahrir Square, in Cairo, Egypt.

(AP Photo/Khalil Hamra)

for president in elections due next year, according to excerpts of an interview published Tuesday, as he gave his first account of his overthrow of the country's Islamist president.

Since the July 3 coup that removed President Mohammed Morsi, there have been growing calls from the military's supporters for Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi to run to replace him.

Previously, a military spokesman denied el-Sissi had political ambitions. The interview with the newspaper Al-Masry al-Youm was the general's first direct comment on the issue.

"I think the time is inappropriate to raise this question in light of the challenges and risks that the country is going through," he said when asked if he would run, according to excerpts posted on the newspaper's website Tuesday from

ture" for a post-Morsi transition, "which will create a new reality that is hard to evaluate now."

Then he was silent and added, "God gets His way," according to the excerpts.

El-Sissi, the defense minister and head of the military, removed Morsi after a massive wave of protests against the Islamist leader demanding his ouster and accusing his Muslim Brotherhood of seeking to dominate Egypt. El-Sissi said in the interview that he repeatedly urged Morsi to compromise with his opponents and be more inclusive.

Since then, the military-backed interim government has cracked down on the group, accusing top leaders of incitement and murder, rounding up some 2,000 members and killing hundreds of pro-Mor-

presenting the crackdown against them as a fight against terrorism. There has been an escalation of violence by Islamic militants — many from groups allied to the Brotherhood — with massive attacks targeting security forces in the volatile northern Sinai and other parts of the country.

At the same time, officials and media have fanned pro-military nationalist sentiment, depicting el-Sissi and the army as saviors of the country — further fueling calls for him to run. The military backed transition plan calls for the amending of the Morsi-era constitution, then for presidential and parliamentary elections to be held early next year. In its latest move at dismantling the sprawling Brotherhood organization, banned by a sweeping court order last month, the government on Tues-

day revoked the permit of the association the group founded earlier this year to give itself a legal face.

In an earlier part published on Tuesday from the three-part Al-Masry Al-Youm interview, el-Sissi gave his account of Morsi's ouster, saying that Brotherhood leaders had warned him of "terrorist attacks" if Morsi were overthrown.

El-Sissi said the turmoil of the past three months could have been avoided if Morsi had resigned in the face of the protests that drew out millions against him, starting on June 30. Days after the protests began, el-Sissi said, he met with senior Brotherhood figures, including the group's strongman Khairat el-Shater.

He said el-Shater warned him that the Brotherhood, which made up the backbone of Morsi's administration, would not be able to control retaliation by Islamic groups in Sinai and other areas if Morsi were removed.

"El-Shater spoke for 45 minutes, vowing terrorist attacks, violence, killings by the Islamic groups," el-Sissi told the paper. "El-Shater pointed with his finger as if he is shooting a gun."

He said el-Shater's speech "showed arrogance and tyranny," adding: "I exploded and said ... 'What do you want? You either want to rule us or kill us?'"

Addressing Islamists now in the wake of Morsi's fall, el-Sissi said, "Watch out while dealing with Egyptians. □

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Overnight demonstrations turn violent in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo woke up to scenes of destruction on Tuesday following violent overnight demonstrations by striking teachers demanding higher pay.

In Rio, a largely peaceful rally by some 20,000 demonstrators turned violent when small groups of masked protesters started hurling rocks and Molotov cocktails at banks, stores and restaurants and set fire to a passenger bus.

Violence also broke out in Sao Paulo during a demonstration in support of the teachers in Rio.

Footage aired by the Globo TV network showed demonstrators in both cities shattering store and bank windows and wrecking ATMs with hammers and large pieces of wood. Protesters also hurled rocks and Molotov cocktails at the American and Angolan consulates in Rio, where they set fire to trash used as street barricades and tried unsuccessfully to set Rio's City Council on fire.



Demonstrators with their faces covered try to invade the City Council after a march in support of teachers on strike in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Teachers have been on strike demanding better pay for almost two months.

(AP Photo/Felipe Dana)

Police used tear gas, rubber bullets and percussion

grenades to disperse the protesters.

It was the second time in a week that clashes broke

out in Rio between police and striking teachers. □

UK says working toward reopening embassy in Iran

RAPHAEL SATTER
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Foreign Secretary William Hague said Tuesday that his country is taking steps toward reopening its embassy in Tehran, agreeing to an exchange of diplomats to discuss improving relations.

Hague said the coming months "may be unusually significant" in British-Iranian relations, which have been beset by arguments over the Islamic Republic's nuclear program and Tehran's support for embattled

leader Bashar Assad in Syria. Hague told lawmakers there are signs of a change — albeit qualified ones.

The British embassy in Tehran was closed in late 2011 after a mob overran the building as tensions over a possible attack on Iran's nuclear facilities ran high. Iran also closed its embassy in London. Relations have remained tense since then, but the recent election of Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has raised hopes of a thaw between Iran and the West — and of a possible nuclear deal.

"It is clear that the new president and ministers in Iran are presenting themselves and their country in a much more positive way than in the recent past. There is no doubt that the tone of the meetings with them is different," Hague told the House of Commons.

He said he and his Iranian counterpart had agreed to appoint non-resident charge d'affaires offices which would discuss the eventual reopening of the British embassy in Iran and the Iranian one in Britain.

Hague still expressed caution, saying it is critical for Iran's warmer tone "to be accompanied by concrete actions and viable approach to negotiations." Iran and Western powers have been arguing for years about Iran's atomic energy program. Iran insists its nuclear facilities are being used for peaceful purposes, but the United States, Europe and Israel believe they're a cover for clandestine development of atomic weapons. The U.S. and its allies have slapped tough sanctions

on Iran for its refusal to open up about the program.

"We must not forget for one moment that as things stand today Iran remains in defiance of six U.N. Security Council resolutions ... and is installing more centrifuges in its nuclear facilities," Hague said. "In the absence of change to these policies we will continue to maintain strong sanctions." Hague said it is appropriate to "test the Iranian government's sincerity to the full" and that "channels of communication remain open." □

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European recovery threatened by lack of worker skills

JORGE SAINZ

LORI HINNANT

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Andrea Ortiz, a 24-year-old Spaniard, has degrees in law and business yet works in a multinational clothing company as a store clerk. She has little hope of advancement and fears that when finally she does get a job she wants, she'll have no idea how to do it well.

"You arrive in class, they give you a book and they ask you to learn it, that's it. The teachers are very educated and well trained but I think that on many occasions they do not know how to transmit that knowledge," said Ortiz, who sells clothes at Zara in Madrid. "The day will come when I have to join a company and I won't know the basics of how an office works."

Her fears may be well-founded, according to a study released Tuesday that shows many countries in dire economic trouble have workforces that lack the skills needed to prompt an economic recovery.

In the first global study of

adult skills, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development interviewed 166,000 people from 24 countries and regions — a rich sample of people from all walks of life who agreed to sit down for tests that could last up to 90 minutes. The results from mostly industrialized countries offered a snapshot into how people of different ages are educated, work and adapt to a changing world.

It did not include China, India or Brazil, which are among the world's fastest developing countries.

"We're looking at decades of policy. We're looking across generations," said Stefano Scarpetta, the OECD's director for employment labor and social affairs.

Gong Juhui is the same age as Ortiz, but says the education and training she received in her native South Korea have given her a very different outlook. She graduated from a four-year college with a degree in social welfare. With about four hours of computing classes a week,

she learned how to make websites and use complex graphics programs and felt confident and well prepared to start work.

Gong's first job, producing fundraising websites, re-

ture holds. Her country's 3 percent unemployment rate is among the world's lowest.

Literacy, a facility with numbers and the ability to adapt to new technolo-

world. And they are skills learned not just in schools but in the workplace and during time off.

Adults in Spain and Italy, two of the countries suffering the most in the Euro-



Protesters at Athens University shout slogans during a demonstration in central Athens. University staff suspended all operations for the fourth week in protest at staff cuts. Hundreds of university administrative staff members held a protest march through central Athens against austerity measures that threaten their jobs. Banners read, "laid-off polytechnical university worker".

(AP Photo/Dimitri Messinis)

quired logic, planning and writing skills — all of which she learned at school and honed at work. She's since jumped to another career, confident of what the fu-

gies are among the strongest indicators of earning power. Without those skills, economists say, workers will find themselves unable to compete in a globalized

pean debt crisis and economic downturn, landed at the bottom of the list for proficiency in math and literacy among 16-to-65 year-olds. □

Czech's Budvar claims victory over AB InBev in Italian court

KAREL JANICEK

Associated Press

PRAGUE (AP) — The state-owned Czech brewery Budejovicky Budvar NP said on Tuesday an Italian court has banned its bitter rival, beer giant Anheuser-Busch InBev, from using the Budweiser trademark in that country, the latest ruling in their long legal battle over the brand name.

At the same time, Budvar said the Supreme Court allowed the Czech brewer to return to the Italian market with its Budweiser Budvar lager. Budvar director

Jiri Bocek called it "a great victory."

Bocek said the court declared AB InBev's use of the Budweiser trademark deceptive and removed it from the trademark register.

"Therefore our competitor must stop selling Budweiser beer in Italy," he said, adding that the verdicts are final.

AB InBev said it was disappointed with the decision but not ready to give up. "We continue our efforts to secure our Budweiser trademark rights in Italy. □

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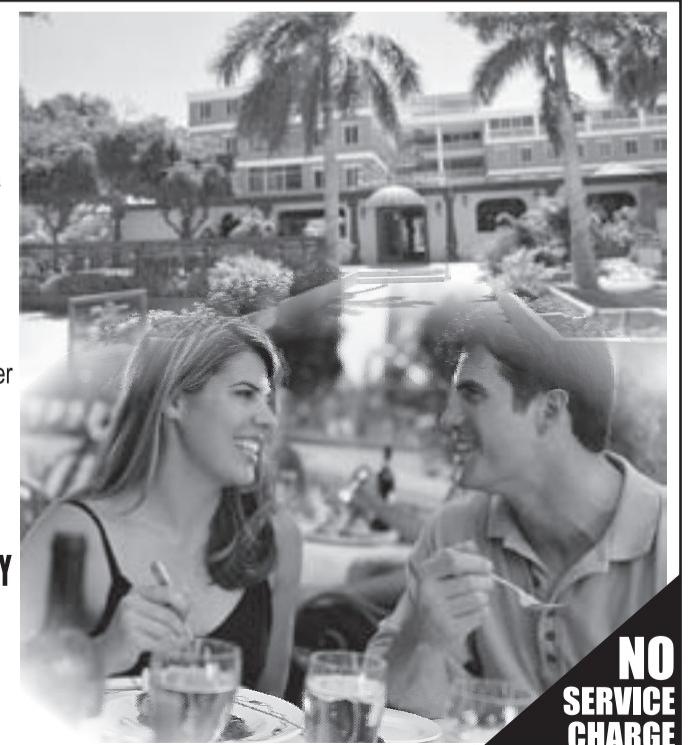
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He said the Lagos-based magazine, which boasts it "champions African capitalism by celebrating African success, free enterprise and the entrepreneurial spirit," regularly collects information about rich Africans and dedicated three months to research spread across the continent. Iweala said he was excited to find several Africans who have become wealthy through manufacturing and financial services showing "we're moving away from a continent that is just resource-based."

He found Africa's billionaires "very bullish on Africa: They believe this is the environment to make fortunes and to make changes ... they are not taking their money and running" abroad. And he found Africa's richest people are becoming more transparent about their wealth and more formal in returning wealth to the community: "As people have more and more money we're seeing more and more foundations putting money back, and in a more structured way." □

Pan-African magazine: Africa has 55 billionaires

MICHELLE FAUL

Associated Press

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — A pan-African magazine says Africa has many more billionaires than previously reported, 55 of them worth more than \$143 billion including a Nigerian said to be the richest black woman in the world.

"Move over, Oprah!" Ventures Africa says in its latest edition published this week. Editor-in-chief Uzodinma Iweala said Tuesday the magazine's estimates are "on the conservative side." The report predictably identifies Nigerian manufacturer Aliko Dangote as the richest African worth \$20.2 billion, among 20 Nigerians listed.

Africa Ventures put the average net worth of Africa's billionaires at \$2.6 billion and their average age at 65. The oldest billionaires are Kenyan industrialist Manu Chandaria and Egyptian property tycoon Mohammed Al-Fayed, both aged 84. The youngest billionaires are Mohammed Dewji of Tanzania and Nigerian oil trader Igho Sanomi, both 38 years old. Nigeria, South Africa and

Egypt had the highest numbers of the richest Africans, with nine in South Africa and eight in Egypt. It said Algeria, Angola, Zimbabwe and Swaziland only have one billionaire each. It identified billionaires in only 10 of Africa's 53 countries. The magazine's survey surprised by identifying oil tycoon Folorunsho Alakija as the richest black woman in the world, saying that she is worth \$7.3 billion. Forbes magazine in its respected list had estimated Alakija's fortune at \$600 million and Oprah Winfrey's worth at \$2.9 billion. The Forbes list of Africa's 40 Richest has only 16 billionaires including two Nigerians. Last month, Forbes published a story describing Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos' daughter, Isabel, as Africa's only female billionaire worth about \$3 billion. "I think being more rigorous and being closer to the ground makes it easier to figure out on a continent where information is not as readily available and things are not as transparent," Iweala explained in a telephone interview.



Folorunsho Alakija attends a function in Lagos, Nigeria. Ventures Africa, a pan-African magazine says Africa has many more billionaires than previously reported, 55 of them worth \$143.88 billion. The magazine's survey surprised by identifying oil tycoon Folorunsho Alakija as the richest black woman in the world, saying that she is worth \$7.3 billion. Forbes magazine in its respected list had estimated Alakija's fortune at \$600 million and Oprah Winfrey's worth at \$2.9 billion. (AP Photo)

EU Parliament clears tough new anti-smoking rules

ANGELA CHARLTON
JUERGEN BAETZ

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — European lawmakers approved sweeping new regulations governing the multibillion-dollar tobacco market on Tuesday, including bigger drastic health warnings on cigarette packs and a ban on menthol and other flavorings to further curb smoking. They stopped short, however, of tough limits on electronic cigarettes. The European Parliament vote in Strasbourg came after months

of bitter debate and an unusually strong lobbying campaign by the tobacco industry, which decries the regulations as disproportionate and limiting consumer freedom. The Parliament dismissed many of the industry's arguments, agreeing on a slightly watered-down version of the proposed legislation. The lawmakers voted to impose warning labels — with the inclusion of gruesome pictorials, for example showing cancer-infested lungs — covering 65 percent of cigarette packs

and to be shown above the brand logo. Current warning labels cover only 30-40 percent of packages. The legislature still must reach a compromise with the 28 European Union governments on certain points before the rules can enter into force. Diplomats say a deal could be struck by the end of the year. The new rules were viewed by the World Health Organization and EU health officials as an important milestone — but not the end of their quest to stop people from smoking and keep

teens from ever picking up a cigarette.

Smoking bans in public, limits on tobacco firms' advertising, and other measures over the past decade have seen the number of smokers fall from an estimated 40 percent of the EU's 500 million citizens to 28 percent now. Still, treatment of smoke-related diseases costs about 25 billion euros (\$34 billion) a year, and the bloc estimates there are around 700,000 smoking-related deaths per annum across the 28-nation bloc.

Legislators also voted for new limits on advertising for electronic cigarettes, but rejected a measure that would have restricted them to medical use only. The battery-operated products, which are enjoying a boom in the United States and many European countries, turn nicotine into a vapor inhaled by the user and are often marketed as a less harmful alternative to tobacco. Many health experts say e-cigarettes are useful for people trying to quit or cut down on nicotine. □

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

At the Radisson Aruba Resort & Casino:

Elegant roof-top party toasts local corporate clients!

PALM BEACH – The Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa hosted an elegant roof-top party in honor of its many local corporate clients. Lily Polsbroek, senior sales manager who co-hosted the party with resort executives explained that many local companies use the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa to accommodate and entertain



tossed to order, cheese and fruit displays and a live carving station, beautifully set-ups under the stars.

"We wanted to showcase what we are capable of doing," said Francisca van Esta Tjallingii, on the resorts' banqueting team "and we hope that our loyal corporate clients will continue to bring us their business in 2013/2014, especially in



their visiting dignitaries and guests, organizing seminars and dinner parties, graduations and fairs, booking banquets and beds, and demonstrating their loyalty to the Grande Dame, the Radisson's flagship resort. The party was orchestrat-

ed in their honor as a token of appreciation, over a spread of two days. The resort spared neither effort nor expense determined to create memorable sunset cocktail receptions with abundant gourmet hors d'oeuvres, martini salads



the upcoming Christmas season."

The party was very well received and guests enjoyed every moment especially the surprise raffle featuring Larimar Spa treatments and dinner at the Sunset Grille among other generous gifts. □

Sitters Aruba team is prepared!



ORANJESTAD - Last week 12 members of the Sitters Aruba team went to the San Nicolas Medical Centre (ImSan) to participate to a First Aid CPR AED course. This course, given by Annan and Shirley of ImSan, is an American Heart Association course and provides the Sitters team the basic skills that may save a life or prevent further injury when an emergency happens. Besides that the team

members got the chance to know each other better during the intense day learning and practicing. Sitters Aruba offers in-room babysitting service for tourists visiting Aruba.

In this way parents can enjoy a romantic dinner or a rough jeep tour that just a little too wild for the youngest family members. Scuba diving is another activity which parents love to do, while Sitters Aruba takes

care of the children. Sitters Aruba also provides care for children who need special care and for elderly.

Sitters Aruba would like to thank the staff of ImSan and Monica Nuboer and Deborah Geerman in particular for their cooperation to this educative course. For more information visit www.sittersaruba.com or find Sitters Aruba on facebook.□



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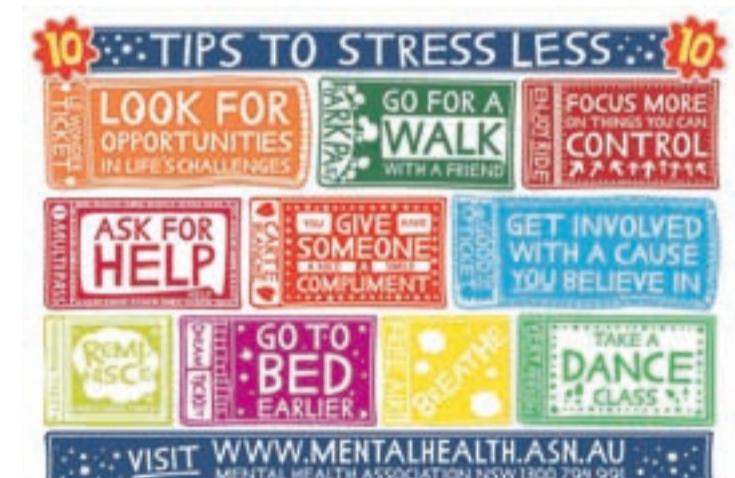
Katie Howard

She is from Cleveland, Ohio, and it's her first time in Aruba. She loves the Beach and the local people. She is staying at the Radisson Beach Resort.

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Mental Health Month 2013: Kindness: Little Acts, Big Impacts!



ORANJESTAD - "Kindness" promotes kindness to oneself and to others, as beneficial to health and well being for everyone. This theme is about practicing self-compassion and accepting that everyone has their strengths and weaknesses. It is about being kind to others, as everyone faces challenges that you might not be aware of. On top of that, encouraging kindness to others is

good for your own well-being as the benefactor. Mental Health Month is a useful reminder for all of us to think about the mental health of ourselves and those around us. Take this opportunity to engage all members of the community in activities that can enhance their mental health and well being. It will be a great excuse to get out there and have some fun!□

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SNACKS

Antoinette van den Berg bids farewell to Marriott Aruba



ternational. She will oversee over fifteen Marriott hotels in South America, focusing on their Sales and Marketing efforts. Surrounded by close colleagues a farewell party was held at Moomba Beach in Antoinette's honor. General Manager Tom Calame took the time to thank Antoinette for her great leadership, guidance and support over the years.

"She has set an example for local Aruban women to pursue an international business career while still maintaining a strong family life", said Calame proud. In her nine years working at the Aruba Marriott Resort, Antoinette was instrumental in successfully leading the Sales & Marketing efforts and producing results for the Aruba Marri-

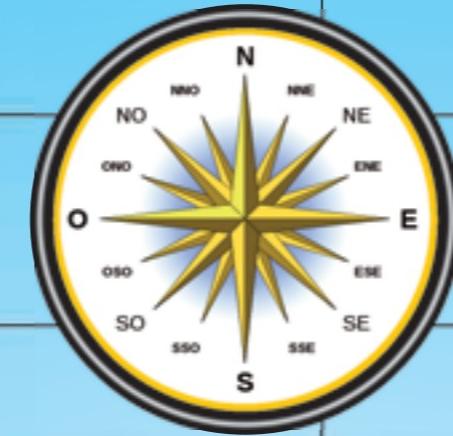


ott team. In 2011, she was honored with the CALA Property Sales Leader of the Year award and her strategy was an integral part of securing the resort's Hotel of the Year award in 2012.

The Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino wishes Antoinette, her husband Ronald and two beautiful daughters Danielle and Andrea all the best. Antoinette will be dearly missed especially by her Sales, Marketing and Reservations team. □

PALM BEACH - The Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino is pleased to announce the promotion of Antoinette van den Berg to the Area Director of Sales & Marketing for the South CALA Region of Marriott In-

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SPORTS**Aruba TODAY**

Dodgers eliminate Braves 4-3 on Uribe homer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Dodgers advanced to their first National League championship series since 2009 after Juan Uribe hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the eighth inning for a 4-3 victory over the Atlanta Braves on Monday.

Yasiel Puig doubled down the right-field line leading off the eighth against losing pitcher David Carpenter. The rookie charged into second base and pumped his right fist in the air in celebration. Fans were on their feet chanting "Let's go Dodgers!" when Uribe fouled off two bunt attempts, then sent a shot into the Dodgers' bullpen in left field to put them in front for the second time. Brian Wilson pitched the eighth to get the victory. Kenley Jansen came on in the ninth to earn the save. Carl Crawford homered his first two times up for the Dodgers, who lost in five games to Philadelphia four years ago in the NLCS.

The Braves took a 3-2 lead in the seventh with pinch-hitter Jose Constanza's RBI single off reliever Ronald Belisario.

Continued on Page 19



UP, UP Los Angeles Dodgers' Juan Uribe watches his two-run home run in front of Atlanta Braves catcher Brian McCann and home plate umpire Bill Miller during the eighth inning of Game 4 in the National League baseball division series, Monday, Oct. 7, 2013, in Los Angeles. The Dodgers won 4-3, and advanced to the NL championship series.

Associated Press



NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell speaks during a news conference following the NFL owners' fall meeting, in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013. New Orleans, Minneapolis and Indianapolis are the three finalists for the 2018 Super Bowl.

Associated Press

NFL to play 3 games in London

WASHINGTON (AP) — The NFL will play three regular-season games at London's Wembley Stadium next year, hosted by the Jaguars, Falcons and Raiders. The league announced Tuesday at its fall meetings that it was expanding its international series. It will be the most games the league has played abroad in one year. This season, Minnesota beat Pittsburgh 34-27 in September, and Jacksonville will host San Francisco on Oct. 27 as part of

it a four-year commitment to move a home game to Wembley. Dates and opponents for the games will be announced when the schedule is compiled next year. "Our fans in the UK have continued to demonstrate that they love football and want more," said Commissioner Roger Goodell, who has championed overseas games for years and someday believes the NFL will have a franchise based in London. "Both of this year's games

in London sold out quickly. The fan enthusiasm for our sport continues to grow. By playing two games in the UK this year, we are creating more fans. We hope that with three games in London next year we will attract even more people to our game." The Raiders and Falcons never have played a regular-season game at Wembley. The Jaguars' first appearance will be when they face San Francisco in 19 days. □

MLD Roundup

Continued from Page 18

The Dodgers gambled in bringing back Clayton Kershaw on three days' rest for the first time in his career. But with a chance to close out the series, they opted for their ace over scheduled starter Ricky Nolasco. The move paid off when the 2011 Cy Young pitching award winner tossed six solid innings before turning it over to the bullpen.

The Tampa Bay Rays staved off elimination once again, beating the Boston Red Sox 5-4 after Jose Lobaton hit a solo home run with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning.

The Rays cut Boston's lead in their AL division series to 2-1. Game 4 is Tuesday night, with Jake Peavy starting for the Red Sox against Jeremy Hellickson. Tampa Bay took a must-win game for the fourth time in nine days.

The Rays did it with an unlikely stroke as Lobaton,

who came off the bench late in the game, connected against Red Sox closer Koji Uehara.

Oakland took a 2-1 lead in its AL division series against Detroit, with Brandon Moss, Josh Reddick and Seth Smith hitting homers as the Athletics chased Anibal Sanchez in the fifth inning and beat the Tigers 6-3.

Moss broke a 3-all tie in the fifth with a solo shot, and Smith's two-run drive later in the inning ended Sanchez' day. It was an impressive offensive show after the teams split two tense, low-scoring games in Oakland.

Sanchez, the American League's ERA leader, allowed six runs — five earned — and eight hits in 4 1-3 innings.

Jarrod Parker gave up three runs in five innings for Oakland, and the Tigers couldn't rally against the bullpen. □



Tampa Bay Rays' Jose Lobaton hits a home run in front of Boston Red Sox catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia in the ninth inning to win Game 3 of an American League baseball division series in St. Petersburg, Fla., Monday, Oct. 7, 2013. Tampa Bay Rays won 5-4.

Associated Press

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New York Jets kicker Nick Folk (2) celebrates his field goal with Ryan Quigley (1) against the Atlanta Falcons during the second half of an NFL football game, Monday, Oct. 7, 2013, in Atlanta. The Jets won 30-28.

Associated Press

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Smith, Folk lead Jets past Falcons 30-28

PAUL NEWBERRY

AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA (AP) - Geno Smith wasn't flustered. Not after all the mistakes in his first four games. Not after the Atlanta Falcons went ahead on a touchdown with less than 2 minutes remaining. Looking like a wily ol' veteran instead of a rookie, Smith calmly guided the New York Jets to another victory.

Smith threw three touchdown passes and directed a drive that set up Nick Folk's 43-yard field goal on the final play, giving the Jets a 30-28 victory over the staggering Falcons on Monday night. "It's always been a dream of mine since I was a kid to be in those situations," Smith said. After the Falcons went ahead on Matt Ryan's 3-yard touchdown pass to Levine Toilolo with 1:54 remaining, Smith completed four straight passes and broke off an 8-yard run that set up Folk's field goal as time expired.

The Jets (3-2) have been waiting for this sort of performance from Smith, who came into the game leading the NFL with 11 turnovers, including eight interceptions. He completed 16 of 20 passes for 199 yards and threw almost as many touchdown passes as the four he had in the first four games. "My confidence is always sky-high," Smith said. "Nothing can bring me down." Smith put in extra work at practice to cut down on the turnovers, and it sure paid off. He was sacked four times but never lost the ball. "It's a mindset," he said. "I made it my duty to come out here and not put the ball on the ground and not put my team in jeopardy."

The Falcons (1-4) rallied from a 27-14 deficit in the fourth quarter. Jacquizz Rodgers scored on a pair of touchdown runs, and Ryan also threw a scoring pass to Jason Snelling. But they couldn't stop Smith when it mattered.

"He's a rookie," Atlanta safety William Moore said, "and we make him look like a 10-year veteran."

Considered a Super Bowl contender at the beginning of the season, Atlanta is mired in a three-game longest losing streak - its longest since 2007 - heading into a bye week.

The Jets led 17-7 after a goal-line stand on the final play of the first half, which turned out to be awful big at the end of the game.

Atlanta had two cracks at the end zone on fourth-and-goal from the 1. The first attempt resulted in an incomplete pass, but the Jets were called for pass interference when they grabbed Tony Gonzalez as he tried to get open.

The Falcons again passed on a chip-shot field goal, and curiously decided to hand it to their smallest back - Rodgers is just 5-foot-6 and 196 pounds - for a power run behind their shaky offensive line. Rodgers was swallowed up by the New York line, sending the Jets racing off the field in celebration while the Falcons staggered to their locker room to a round of boos from the Georgia Dome crowd.

Rodgers and the Falcons rallied in the second half.

The diminutive back scored on a 4-yard run midway through the third quarter, then broke off a 19-yard score to cut the Jets' lead to 27-21 with 8:10 remaining. □

SNUBA



Rangers beat Kings 3-1 with Quick's mistake

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Brad Richards scored two goals and Ryan McDonagh got credit for a short-handed goal after a comical mistake by Jonathan Quick as the New York Rangers beat the Los Angeles Kings 3-1 on Monday for their first victory of the season.

Quick stopped 25 shots in the Kings' home opener, but the star goalie also misplayed McDonagh's harmless cleared puck from deep in the New York end early in the third period, knocking it into his own net. Henrik Lundqvist made 28 saves, and Rick Nash assisted on both of Richards' goals for the Rangers (1-1), who are opening the season on a nine-game road trip.

Jake Muzzin scored for the Kings (1-2), who have scored just six goals in three games this season.

Quick's first home game since his 10-year, \$58 million contract extension kicked in featured maybe

the most embarrassing goal allowed by the Kings' Conn Smythe Trophy winner.

Los Angeles trailed by one goal when Brian Boyle won a faceoff to Lundqvist's left. McDonagh quickly cleared the puck off the far boards, and Quick skated to his left to play it. But Quick's stick slipped out of his hands as he knelt, and he reached for it while the puck glanced off his right pad and ricocheted straight into his net. The Staples Center crowd howled in disbelief, and Quick hung his head.

Edmonton 5, New Jersey 4, SO

At Edmonton, Alberta, Jordan Eberle and David Perron scored in the shootout for the Oilers, who erased a three-goal deficit in the third period against goalie Martin Brodeur to beat the New Jersey Devils 5-4.

Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Andrew Ference, Perron, and Taylor Hall all scored their

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New York Rangers center Brad Richards (19) attempts to get the puck past Los Angeles Kings goalie Jonathan Quick (32) and center Anze Kopitar (11), of Slovenia, during the third period of an NHL hockey game, Monday, Oct. 7, 2013, in Los Angeles. The Rangers won 3-1.

Associated Press

first goals of the season in a 7:47 span to make it 4-3. But despite getting a power play with 2:51 left in regulation, the Oilers (1-2) were forced to go to over-

time. Jason LaBarbera made 21 saves through the extra session and stopped both Devils attempts in the shootout. Brodeur made 23

saves, but was 0 for 2 in the tiebreaker.

Edmonton's victory helped the Oilers avoid their worst start since 1995 when they were 0-4. □

2-time champion Ivanovic beats Wickmayer in Linz

LINZ, Austria (AP) — Ana Ivanovic started her quest for a third Generali Ladies title by defeating Yanina Wickmayer of Belgium 6-2, 6-4, while second-seeded Sloane Stephens overcame a slow start to beat Magdalena Rybarikova of Slovakia 6-3, 6-1 in the first round on Tuesday.

The third-seeded Ivanovic, who won the event in 2008 and '10, served five aces and broke Wickmayer, also a former winner in 2009, five times.

"The result looked easier

than it really was," Ivanovic said. "She made me work hard, especially in the second set."

Ivanovic next plays another former French Open champion, Francesca Schiavone of Italy.

Stephens dropped her first two service games but the 12th-ranked American broke Rybarikova three times to take the opening set.

Stephens, who had lost her only previous match against Rybarikova, held serve throughout the sec-

ond set for a convincing victory.

The American will next face Andrea Petkovic. The German led 5-2 in the second set against Yvonne Meusburger of Austria but was broken twice while serving for the match before wrapping up a 6-3, 7-5 victory. Earlier, Camila Giorgi of Italy upset last year's finalist Julia Goerges of Germany 6-2, 6-3.

The 105th-ranked Giorgi, who won three qualifying matches to reach the main draw, avoided break

points and converted the second match point on her serve.

"It was a good match," said the Italian, who broke Goerges three times. "I feel well on these hardcourts and I will try to keep going." In the second round, Giorgi faces fifth-seeded Kirsten Flipkens of Belgium, who rallied to beat 17-year-old Donna Vekic of Croatia 2-6, 6-2, 6-2.

Austria's Patricia Mayr-Achleitner, who entered on a wild card, came back from a set down to defeat

sixth-seeded Sorana Cirstea of Romania 1-6, 6-3, 6-4. Also, seeded players Carla Suarez Navarro of Spain and Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia reached the second round. No. 4 Suarez Navarro defeated Kristyna Pliskova of the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-3, and No. 7 Cibulkova came from behind to beat Annika Beck of Germany 3-6, 6-2, 6-1.

Cibulkova next plays Katarzyna Piter of Poland, who defeated Irina-Camelia Begu of Romania 6-2, 4-6, 6-3. □



By: Dr Carlos Viana

Swiss cheese has a distinctive appearance; it is riddled with holes. In a late stage of cheese production a bacteria makes the cheese release carbon dioxide gas. This gas slowly forms the bubbles that develop into holes. This is great for the unique taste and look of Swiss cheese, but not so great for bones.

Bones that are porous or full of holes like Swiss cheese are weak and break easily. Bones become porous because they have either lost or are not able to receive or process the materials needed to maintain and rebuild strong bones. Bones are made of protein, minerals, and vitamins. The minerals in bones are: calcium, potassium, manganese, magnesium, silica, iron, zinc, selenium, boron, phosphorus, sulfur, chromium, and dozens of others. We check the condition of bones with a Bone density scanner, also called dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry (DXA) or bone densitometry, an enhanced form of x-ray technology used to measure bone loss.

The bone density scan will measure if you have healthy bones according to averages for a person your age, or if your bone mineral density is lower than normal. Slight bone density loss is called osteopenia. If more bone material is lost the condition is called osteoporosis, which in Greek means "po-

rous bones". In osteoporosis the bone mineral density (BMD) is reduced, bone structure is deteriorating, and the amount and variety of proteins in bone is reduced. Not a good situation.

Osteoporosis itself has no specific symptoms; its main consequence is the increased risk of bone fractures. Osteoporotic fractures are those that occur in situations where healthy people would not normally break a bone; sometimes called fragility fractures. Typical fragility fractures occur in the back bone or spine, ribs, hips and wrist.

Medical guidelines recommend all women have a bone density scan at age 65 and men at age 70. If you have high risk factors such as yourself or family members with adult fractures, smoking, or have taken oral steroids for more than 3 months, younger may be recommended. A bone density scan can identify the condition of your bones; however, if you already have osteoporosis having a scan after the fact is like closing the barn doors after the animals have escaped.

Conventional medicine attempts to treat osteoporosis with calcium supplements, Vitamin D, and drugs called bisphosphates. For twenty years I have been telling patients that getting too much calcium from pharmaceutical or natural supplements can cause "free calcium" in your blood. I consider this a toxic heavy metal. The same goes for calcium from milk products. The countries with the most milk consumption are the same countries that are suffering the most from osteoporosis. The majority of hip fractures occur in Europe and North America,

major milk consumers. In The British Medical Journal, Dr John G F Cleland states "patients with osteoporosis should generally not be treated with calcium supplements, either alone or combined with vitamin D." Instead of pills and milk, try getting a more absorbent form of calcium together with other vital nutrients from the same place as the cow (is supposed to), green vegetables!

My medical protocol, Biocompatible Medicine, treats bone mineral loss differently. First, I begin checking bone mineral loss when possible while patients are still young. Teenage years are a good time to begin checking bones. With a comprehensive blood test, we can determine the amount of minerals being lost. Detecting bone loss early gives us more time to correct the problem.

If the blood test shows bone mineral loss, the second thing we do is look for the cause. Bones are the warehouse for minerals used by the body. Infection, inflammation, insulin resistance, pharmaceutical and street drugs, smoking, toxic heavy metals, insecticides, and many more factors make the blood acidic. Trying to balance this acid environment, the body pulls minerals from the bone "warehouse." Unfortunately the body does not replace those minerals by itself and "Swiss cheese" bones can result.

The third phase of our protocol is to correct the acid environment of the body, by removing toxins and adding mineral rich foods and supplements. The minerals lacking in today's foods that are important to bone health include, magnesium which needs to

team up with vitamin B6 to regulate the absorption of calcium into bone. Never take just one B vitamin, always use a B complex with the specific B vitamins recommended by your nutritionist. Zinc deficiency reduces the number of osteoblasts, the cells that form bone, and can cause other health problems. Vitamin C helps individuals absorb calcium and iron from food in order to keep blood, bones, tendons and cell reproduction healthy. Lecithin breaks up fats and reduces them to microscopic particles helping control bad cholesterol. It also insures increased use of vitamins A, D, and E, and helps the body utilize calcium from food.

Having corrected bone problems, you need to start rebuilding your muscles. Every anatomy student learns that bones grow in response to stronger muscles. We know that exercise is beneficial to us in many ways, from helping us lose weight and strengthening our muscles to helping to control insulin problems and keeping our hearts healthy and our lungs strong.

Not only does exercise help our bones become stronger and denser, it helps them grow as well. Exercise is especially important for growing bones of children and teens, but also for continued health of adults of all ages.

Get The Point The World Health Organization estimates the number of hip fractures worldwide due to osteoporosis is expected to rise three-fold by the middle of the next century, from 1.7 million in 1990 to 6.3 million by 2050. Both health organizations and individuals must act now to avoid this impending epidemic. You do not need to wait un-

til you are older to find out that you have Swiss cheese bones. Come in so we can help you protect your bones.

"Bone Mineral Loss in Aging and Biocompatible Medicine: Age Management Interventions – A Fresh Perspective on Osteoporosis" was presented by Dr. Viana at the American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine WORLD CONGRESS on ANTI-AGING. There is a chapter on Osteoporosis in Dr. Viana's latest book.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph.D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270, Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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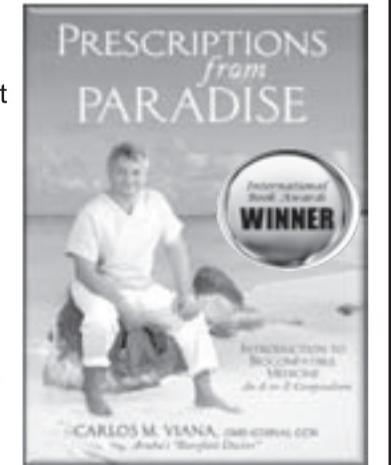
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Google unveils \$279 Chrome laptop made by HP

ANICK JESDANUN
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Google is introducing a \$279 laptop that runs its Internet-centric Chrome operating system, borrowing many of the high-end features found in models that cost \$1,000 or more.

Hewlett-Packard Co. makes the new HP Chromebook 11. Although its price is in line with most other Chrome OS notebooks, the new model sports many design features found in pricier devices, including the \$1,299 Chromebook Pixel. Unlike Windows and Mac laptops, Chromebooks rely heavily on continuous Internet connections to run Gmail, Google Docs and other online services. Many apps don't run directly on the device but over the Internet. The devices also have relatively little storage, as documents, photos and other files are supposed to be stored online. Google promotes Chromebooks as affordable laptops for a wide range of

people, including schoolchildren and merchants who can use Google's tools on the Internet without the extra expense and hassle of installing more sophisticated software such as Adobe's Photoshop photo-editing software or Microsoft's Office word processing and spreadsheet package. Chromebooks come with a lightweight photo editing package and Quickoffice, a Microsoft Office alternative that Google bought in last year. The Chromebook 11 has a sleek, plastic frame with no sharp edges or corners —or even screw holes. The speakers are tucked under the keyboard so sound comes out toward the user, even when the laptop is on the user's lap. Devices with speakers on the back or the bottom don't do that. The new laptop's display measures 11.6 inches (29 centimeters) diagonally, the same as a popular Chromebook model from Samsung Electronics Co. The Chromebook 11



The new HP Chromebook 11, left, is displayed with a Chromebook 14 at a Google event, Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013 in New York.

Associated Press

weighs slightly less, at 2.3 pounds (1.04 kilograms), compared with 2.4 pounds (1.09 kilograms) for the Samsung model.

Caesar Sengupta, Google's vice president of product management for Chromebooks, said HP

approached Google after seeing the Pixel, which Google designed and made on its own using an unnamed contract manufacturer. He said Google and HP made a few trade-offs to keep the price low. The Chromebook 11 doesn't have a touch screen, and the display's resolution isn't as sharp as the Pixel's. The Chromebook 11 also uses a plastic frame rather than metal, but there's magnesium underneath to keep the laptop sturdy. □

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Stocks fall as investors wait on Washington

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market's slow bleed got a little worse Tuesday. The decline is the result of squabbling in Washington over raising the nation's debt limit and a government shutdown that has dragged on for more than a week. Moderate losses for the stock market in the first days of the shutdown have accelerated this week as the U.S. has moved closer to an Oct. 17 deadline for lifting the government's borrowing authority.

Stocks opened flat, moved steadily lower and slumped in the final minutes of trading Tuesday. The loss added to a three-week decline that has knocked the Standard & Poor's 500 index down 4 percent since hitting a record high on Sept. 18.

Swings in the market will likely increase the closer the U.S. gets to the debt deadline without a resolution, said Randy Frederick, Managing Director of Active Trading and Derivatives at the Schwab Center for Financial Research.

"Virtually everyone expects that there will some sort of a resolution," Frederick said. "But I wouldn't be surprised if it only came right before the last minute." The S&P 500 index dropped 20.67 points, or 1.2 percent, to 1,655.45. It was the biggest one-day drop for the index since Aug. 20. The declines were

led by phone companies. House Republicans have insisted that a temporary funding bill contain concessions on President Barack Obama's health care law. The president wants a bill to simply re-

dropped 75.54 points, or 2 percent, to 3,694.83. Nervous investors also dumped short-term government debt as they worried that the standoff in Washington could jeopardize the nation's ability

come more wary of holding short-term government debt that matures shortly after the debt deadline. There were other signs of increasing investor nervousness. The VIX index, which rises



Specialists Amanda Anderson and Bradley Kessler work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The mood in financial markets remained cautious Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013, as U.S. politicians remained at loggerheads over how to solve the budget crisis that has raised fears of a possible U.S. debt default.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

open the government, without strings attached. Obama said he had told House Speaker John Boehner he's willing to negotiate with Republicans on their priorities, but not under the threat of "economic chaos." Speaking at a press briefing in Washington, the president warned that the U.S. risked a "very deep recession" if the debt ceiling wasn't raised. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 159.71 points, or 1.1 percent, to 14,776.53. The Nasdaq composite

to pay its bills, including interest on its debt, as early as next week if Congress doesn't raise the borrowing limit.

The yield on Treasury bills maturing in one month soared to 0.28 percent, hitting its highest level since the 2008 financial crisis. The yield was 0.15 percent on Monday and close to zero at the beginning of October.

The yield, which rises as the price of the notes fall, has surged as managers of money-market funds be-

when investors are getting more concerned about stock fluctuations, climbed to its highest level of the year.

"Unfortunately, we're just held hostage by what's going on in Washington," said Dan Veru, Chief Investment Officer of Palisade Capital Management.

U.S. companies will start reporting earnings for the third quarter in earnest this week, giving investors something else to think about other than Washington. □

Oil rises on hopes of avoiding debt default

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil traders appeared more confident than stock traders Tuesday that the U.S. can avoid defaulting on its debt.

U.S. benchmark crude for November delivery rose 46 cents to close at \$103.49 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Meanwhile, stocks fell on worries that the budget standoff in Washington could jeopardize the nation's ability to pay its bills.

"Unlike the stock market, the energy complex appears to be pricing in an avoidance of a US debt ceiling crisis next week," wrote Jim Ritterbusch, president of energy consultancy Ritterbusch and Associates, in a note to clients.

Oil prices have bounced around between \$101 and \$104 a barrel after the U.S. government was forced to partially halt operations last week. A deadline is also approaching for raising the nation's borrowing limit.

If Congress doesn't raise the limit by Oct. 17, America could face its first-ever debt default, which experts warn could seriously harm the global economy.

A new corporate earnings period in the U.S. could divert the market's attention from the government stalemate, at least temporarily. As usual, aluminum giant Alcoa kicks off the quarterly earnings season after Wall Street closes Tuesday. While Alcoa is no longer a member of the Dow Jones

industrial average, it is considered a bellwether for commodities. Its results will be watched for signs about global manufacturers' demand for the lightweight metal in a stubbornly slow-growing economy.

Brent, the benchmark for international crudes, gained 48 cents to \$110.16 on the ICE Futures exchange in London.

In other energy futures trading on Nymex:

— Wholesale gasoline was flat at \$2.63 per gallon. □

Alcatel-Lucent gives details on 10,000 job cuts

DAVID JOLLY

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PARIS — Alcatel-Lucent, the French-American telecommunications equipment maker, has laid out the details of a comprehensive restructuring that includes 10,000 job cuts worldwide over the next two years. The plan, which was being presented to the company's European workers council Tuesday, is aimed at cutting fixed costs by 15 percent by the end of 2015, an amount currently equivalent to 1 billion euros (about \$1.3 billion).

"All geographic areas where Alcatel-Lucent operates will contribute" to the job cuts, the company said in a statement, including 4,100 positions in Europe, the Middle East and Africa; 3,800 in the Asia-Pacific region; and 2,100 in the Americas.

Simon Poulter, an Alcatel-Lucent spokesman, said the 10,000 job cuts represented a "net" figure. Another 5,000 jobs might also be eliminated as part of the overhaul, he said, but they would be balanced by a similar number of new hires.

Poulter said he could not provide any additional details on how the layoffs might play out in the United States, where its local headquarters is in Murray Hill, N.J.

The job cuts work out to nearly 14 percent of the 72,344 worldwide employees Alcatel-Lucent reported at the end of 2012.

Alcatel-Lucent, based in Paris, was formed from the 2006 merger of the French telecommunications infrastructure champion Alcatel and Lucent Technologies, a former AT&T unit. The combined company has never fulfilled expectations, fighting a constant battle to remain relevant in a market increasingly dominated by Ericsson, Huawei Technologies, and Nokia Solutions and Networks.

Only the size of the job losses had been in question after Alcatel-Lucent's new chief executive, Michel Combes. □

Twitter Talk:**Wall Street's marquee exchanges NYSE, Nasdaq fight for IPO****KEN SWEET****AP Markets Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — Twitter's stock debut is the biggest coming-out party since Facebook, and Wall Street's largest exchanges are fighting to host it.

The company has yet to announce an exchange, but when its shares go public — most likely before Thanksgiving in late November — Twitter executives could either ring the opening bell on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange or sign Nasdaq Stock Exchange's digital screen.

Either way, the initial public offering is much more than a photo op for the winner. Listing Twitter's shares and overseeing their trading means adding revenue at a time when NYSE and Nasdaq are losing business and struggling to keep up with changes in trading technologies. Hosting this year's hottest tech debut also gives the winner an edge when it tries to lure other IPOs, especially in the fertile area of social media. Both Nasdaq and NYSE are courting Twitter heavily. Bloggers, traders and the mainstream financial media are buzzing with rumors about Twitter's choice. On Friday, CNBC reported that Nasdaq's CEO was visiting Twitter's headquarters. Earlier reports said the microblogging service was leaning toward NYSE.

Adding Twitter would be another trophy for NYSE as it continues to grab more of Nasdaq's traditional turf in technology IPOs. Keeping Twitter from NYSE would offer Nasdaq some redemption after its disastrous job hosting Facebook's IPO in May 2012, which resulted in lawsuits and a marred reputation.

"I'd be shocked if Twitter went to the Nasdaq," says Kevin Landis, a portfolio manager with Firsthand Funds, who owns shares in Twitter. "The guys at Twitter want to do it as differently from Facebook as they possibly can, and that boils down to even what exchange ... to trade on."



A Twitter App and stock tracker is featured on an iPhone, in Köln, Germany. Twitter's stock debut is the biggest coming-out party since Facebook, and Wall Street's marquee exchanges are fighting to host it.

(AP Photo/dpa, Marius Becker)

Both exchanges are certain they're the better candidate.

"We feel very confident in our positioning and we would hope we have a great shot at Twitter," says Bruce Aust, executive vice president at Nasdaq OMX Group, the parent company of the exchange. Aust made the comments at Bloomberg's Next Big Thing Summit last month.

"We're not strangers to technology companies," says NYSE Euronext spokeswoman Marissa Arnold. That's an understatement. NYSE, which traditionally did not woo technology

companies, is expanding rapidly into that space. NYSE won 13 of the 20 largest technology IPOs in 2012, according to data from Dealogic, and has won 10 out of 20 of the largest technology IPOs so far this year. U.S. publicly-traded companies list their stock with either Nasdaq or the NYSE, but neither exchange is guaranteed the stream of revenue they once earned. That's because listing as a NYSE or Nasdaq company doesn't mean traders will actually buy and sell stock on those exchanges.

For years, traders have been shifting their business from the major exchanges to smaller, more low-cost systems like Direct Edge or BATS. Both exchanges also have lost trading to what's known as "dark pools." These less-regulated trading platforms are run by investment banks and allow large customers to fill large trading orders without alerting the broader market.

The average number of shares traded on the NYSE last month was around 3.1 billion shares a day, compared with the roughly 6.3 billion shares traded this time five years ago. The Nasdaq has seen similar volume declines.

Every time a share trades, the exchange where the company is listed charges various, extremely small fees. Some of these fees are a fraction of a penny, but when there's billions of shares traded every day, those pennies add up. If a listed share trades somewhere else, the fees are lower.

NYSE's parent company made \$2.3 billion in transaction and clearing fees in 2012, while the Nasdaq made \$2.56 billion off similar services last year.

Other money-makers for exchanges include investor-relations software packages and networking events, which can also influence where a company decides to debut.

Picking Nasdaq or NYSE is like choosing an elite fraternity, says Leslie Pfrang, a principal with Class V Group, an advisory firm that specializes in helping companies through IPOs. Each exchange offers events with their other listed companies, a prime way to drum up business.

"It's almost like joining an organization or club where you need to feel a part of it," Pfrang says.

Pfrang believes the two exchanges are equally appealing. It boils down to whether Twitter wants to be associated with its tech counterparts or if it wants to trade among its customers, often consumer brands.

The choice used to be clearer for a company. The NYSE was home to bigger companies, typically in industries like consumer products and industrials. Nasdaq was home to more tech and biotechnology companies.

The way the two exchanges conducted trading used to be different as well. □

New stock symbol for Tweeter after Twitter mix-up**JOSEPH PISANI****AP Business Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — Tweeter is not Twitter. And its stock symbol has changed to avoid any confusion. The bankrupt electronics retailer's stock resumed trading Tuesday under "THEGQ." Its old symbol was "TWTRQ."

That was apparently too similar to "TWTR," the symbol proposed by Twitter on Thursday when the messaging service filed plans for its highly anticipated initial public offering.

Some confused investors sent Tweeter's stock up as much as 1,400 percent on Friday. And trading volume skyrocketed to 14.4 million shares. Over the past year,

the daily average was about 29,000, according

haltered trading of Tweeter's stock Friday afternoon to



A store closing banner is hung on a vacant Tweeter electronics store in Salem, N.H. The bankrupt electronics retailer's stock resumed trading under a new symbol, "THEGQ," on Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013.

(AP Photo/Charles Krupa)

to FactSet.

The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Wall Street's industry regulator,

bol, the group said. The trades from last week will stand, however. Finra said that if the trades are canceled, it will notify markets. Tweeter's stock, traded over the counter rather than on an exchange, fell 78 percent to 1 cent in afternoon trading Tuesday. It had closed at 1 cent on Thursday before the mix-up and jumped as high as 15 cents on Friday.

Twitter's stock, meanwhile, won't be available for trading until the social media company actually goes public. That could be before Thanksgiving.

Anticipation around Twitter's IPO is high among investors after Facebook Inc. went public in May 2012. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

4	3										
8		9									
6			7								
3				4							
1	8	3	2	5	9						
7			5								
4	5	2	1	3	9	7	6				
2											5
9	5	7	4	3	8						

Difficulty Level ★★★

10/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

6	8	7	9	1	4	3	2	5			
1	4	5	2	3	7	8	6	9			
9	3	2	6	8	5	4	1	7			
7	9	4	8	2	6	1	5	3			
5	1	8	7	9	3	2	4	6			
2	6	3	5	4	1	7	9	8			
3	5	1	4	7	9	6	8	2			
8	7	9	1	6	2	5	3	4			
4	2	6	3	5	8	9	7	1			

Yesterday's puzzle answer

10/09

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13		14		15						16			
17			18							19			
20		21								22			
			23							24	25		
26	27	28								29	30		31
												32	33
34					35							36	
37			38							39			
40			41							42			
43		44								45			
		46								47			
48	49	50		51	52	53					54	55	
56			57							58			59
60			61							62			
63			64							65			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

10/9/13

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

POUR	CHAFFE	SPAN												
INTO	RELAX	TAXI												
TEAM	ELITE	RILL												
ASHAMED	TRAINEE													
NAP	FETID													
EDICT	DIN	DEALT												
MINE	PEG	PESTER												
BAN	ORCHARD	LIVE												
ENERGY	TWO	PLEA												
RARER	SEE	TOTED												
FEMUR	PEA													
ARTISAN	SLACKEN													
BEEN	IDAHOC	HAVE												
LINE	DARED	EYES												
ENDS	SEEDS	DENT												

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10/9/13

- 4 TV's "The ___ Family"
5 Tiny weights
6 Overdue
7 house;
Realtor's event
8 "___ Ho"; John Wayne movie
9 "___ I seen you somewhere before?"
10 Break ___; have neither a gain nor a loss
11 Orange peel
12 Probability
14 Enigma
21 Carry
25 Burro
26 Acting award
27 Task
28 Records
29 Apple centers
30 Colors
31 Royal decree
32 Wall recess
33 Drive too fast
35 Just; equitable
38 Did surgery
- DOWN
1 Just purchased
2 Way out
3 A ___ of Two Cities"
- 39 Loiters
41 Take to court
42 Jail cubicle
44 Uncertain
45 Free-for-alls
47 Spaghetti sauce herb
48 "My Country, 'Tis of ___"
49 Fumbler's word
50 Clutch
52 Lima's nation
53 Window glass
54 Russian's "No!"
55 First, reverse, or neutral, e.g.
59 Dishwasher cycle

NFL says it'll meet with tribe about Redskins name



Ray Halbritter, National Representative of the Oneida Indian Nation gestures as he speaks during the Oneida Indian Nation's Change the Mascot symposium, Monday, Oct. 7, 2013, in Washington, calling for the Washington Redskins NFL football team to change its name. During an interview, President Barack Obama suggested that the owner of the Washington Redskins football team consider changing its name because, the president said, the current name offends "a sizable group of people."

Associated Press

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Pro Football Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The NFL is prepared to meet with an Indian tribe pushing for the Washington Redskins to drop the team's nickname. Just not this week.

As league owners gathered Monday in the nation's capital for meetings, the Oneida Indian Nation held a symposium across town to promote their "Change the Mascot" campaign. Oneida representative Ray Halbritter said the NFL was

invited to attend.

Instead, NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said, a meeting has been scheduled for next month.

"We respect that people have differing views," McCarthy said. "It is important that we listen to all perspectives."

He said the Redskins name is not on the agenda for the owners' meetings. Redskins owner Dan Snyder has vowed to keep the name, and an AP-GfK poll conducted in April found that nearly 4 in 5 Ameri-

cans don't think the team should change its name. It's a topic generating discussion lately, though. President Barack Obama said in an interview with The Associated Press last week that he would "think about changing" the team's name if he were the owner.

Halbritter described that statement as "nothing less than historic" and said the team's nickname is "a divisive epithet ... and an outdated sign of division and hate."

Addressing the NFL, Halbritter said: "It is hypocritical to say you're America's pastime but not represent the ideals of America."

U.S. Rep. Betty McCollum, D-Minn., said the league and team are "promoting a racial slur" and "this issue is not going away."

For years, a group of American Indians has tried to block the team from hav-

ing federal trademark protection, and Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton, the District of Columbia's envoy to Congress, predicted Monday that effort eventually will succeed.

"This name is going to go into the dustbin of history," she said.

Lanny Davis, a lawyer who said he's been advising Snyder on the name issue for "at least several months," said in a telephone interview after the symposium: "The Washington Redskins support people's feelings, but the overwhelming data is that Native Americans are not offended and only a small minority are."

Davis also said the campaign is "showing selective attention" by focusing on the Redskins and not teams such as the NFL's Kansas City Chiefs, NHL's Chicago Blackhawks, or Major League Baseball's Cleveland Indians and Atlanta Braves. □

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Dr. Angela

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2 win physics Nobel Prize for Higgs theory

FRANK JORDANS

KARL RITTER

Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Nearly 50 years after they came up with the theory, but little more than a year since the world's biggest atom smasher delivered the proof, Britain's Peter Higgs and Belgian colleague Francois Englert won the Nobel Prize in physics Tuesday for helping to explain how matter formed after the Big Bang.

Working independently in the 1960s, they came up with a theory for how the fundamental building blocks of the universe clumped together, gained mass and formed everything we see around us today. The theory hinged on the existence of a subatomic particle that came to be called the Higgs boson — or the "God particle."

In one of the biggest breakthroughs in physics in decades, scientists at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, announced last year that they had finally found a Higgs boson using the \$10 billion particle collider built in a 17-mile (27-kilometer) tunnel under the Swiss-French border.

In a statement issued by the University of Edinburgh, where he retired as a professor, the famously shy, 84-year-old Higgs said he hoped the prize would help people recognize "the value of blue-sky research." Englert, 80, said the award pointed to the importance of scientific freedom and the need for scientists to be allowed to do fundamental research



Nobel Prize winner for Physics, Belgium's Francois Englert, left, attends a news conference at the University of Brussels in Brussels, Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013; and This June 2013 photo released on Tuesday Oct. 8, 2013 by the University of Edinburgh shows British physicist Peter Higgs speaking at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. The 2013 Nobel Prize for Physics was awarded to Belgium's Francois Englert and Britain's Peter Higgs for their discovery of the "God particle", the Higgs Boson that explains why mass exists.

Associated Press

that doesn't have immediate practical applications. "You don't work thinking to get the Nobel Prize," said Englert, a retired professor at the Free University of Brussels. Still, "we had the impression that we were doing something that was important, that would later on be used by other researchers."

The Nobel selection committees are notoriously cautious, often allowing decades to elapse before honoring a scientific breakthrough, and their choices are hard to predict. But this time, the prize went to people who were widely expected to get it. "In CERN here, most all of the physicists I know, about 95 percent, expected those two would win it. The question was if there would be a third and who it would

be," said Joe Incandela, a professor of physics at the University of California at Santa Barbara and leader of the CMS experiment, one of the two groups that discovered the Higgs particle.

Before the announcement, there had been questions over whether a group of American scientists who published a paper shortly after Higgs would also be honored, or whether any of the thousands of scientists at CERN would share in the prize, too.

But that would have been a tricky decision for the judges, since each Nobel Prize can go to only three winners.

Ulf Danielsson, a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, which awards the physics prize, noted that the prize



citation also honored the work done at CERN.

"This is a giant discovery. It means the final building block in the so-called Standard Model for particle physics has been put in place, so it marks a milestone in the history of physics," Danielsson said.

The two winners will share a prize worth 8 million Swedish kronor (\$1.2 million). The Nobel Prizes, established by Swedish industrialist Alfred Nobel, have been given out since 1901.

CERN Director General Rolf Heuer said he was thrilled for Higgs and Englert, while many of the thousands of scientists who worked there broke into applause when the announcement was made after an unusual — and unexplained — one-hour delay. (It could be a while before the world finds out the reason for the delay, because the academy's deliberations are kept secret for 50 years.) Englert and Higgs were trying to provide an answer to a riddle: How did matter form soon after the Big Bang?

They proposed the existence of an invisible field that sprawls through space like a net. The building blocks of matter, they suggested, acquired mass when this field trapped them. Much later, as the universe cooled, they formed atoms that eventually became stars and planets.

To detect the field, the scientists suggested looking for the Higgs boson, because all fields are associated with a particle.

Decades would pass before scientists were able to confirm the existence of this particle.

Only about one collision per trillion will produce a Higgs boson in the giant atom collider, and it took CERN several months after the discovery of a new "Higgs-like" boson to conclude that the particle was, in fact, very much like the one expected in the original formulation.

The phrase "God particle" was coined by Nobel-winning physicist Leon Lederman, but it's disliked by most physicists because it connotes the supernatural. Lederman said later that the phrase — mostly used by laymen — was really meant to convey that he felt it was the "goddamn particle," because it proved so hard to find.

Michael Turner, president of the American Physical Society, an organization of physicists, said the Higgs particle captured the public's imagination.

"If you're a physicist, you can't get in a taxi anywhere in the world without having the driver ask you about the Higgs particle," said Turner, a cosmologist at the University of Chicago.

Turner said the Higgs is the first in a class of particles that scientists think played a role in shaping the universe. That means it points the way to tackling mysteries such as the nature of dark energy and dark matter, he said.

The physics prize was the second of this year's Nobels to be announced. □

Scientists calculate the speed of free-roaming dark matter Alt

When dark matter is the most pervasive substance in the universe, it's important that we know how quickly it can move. Thankfully, Syracuse University scientists may have just found that speed. By comparing distribution in the early universe with what we see today, researchers now estimate that free-roaming dark matter moves at 54 meters per second (177 feet per second). That's pokey in relation to other materials in space, and the calculation assumes that nothing gets in the way -- most dark matter is stuck in clumps. The number may not sound like much, but it could be vital to physicists wanting to test (and possibly prove) their theories about a very mysterious element. □

Nugent still fired up about music, mad at liberals

JEFF KAROUB
Associated Press

DETROIT (AP)—Ted Nugent scheduled interviews this week to talk about his new live CD and DVD set, but politics naturally entered the discussion as a partial government shutdown moves through a second week.

The 65-year-old Michigan rocker and staunch firearms and hunting advocate characteristically made no secret about where he stands, citing a recent piece he wrote for a conservative website entitled "Make my Day, Shut it Down."

"The government is so out of control. It is so bloated and infested with fraud and deceit and corruption and abuse of power," he said Monday. "The American government today will go down and the American people, it breaks my heart to say ... will go down

as the dumbest, most unappreciative society in the history of humankind."

Nugent said government overreach and incompetence goes back decades, but it's at its worst under President Barack Obama. He described Obama as a "monster in the White House" who "wouldn't qualify to drive my tour bus." Nugent drew the attention of the Secret Service last year when he said he would be "dead or in jail" if Obama was re-elected. He said this week that he wasn't making threats — he was merely afraid for his life and others because law-abiding farmers, ranchers and small business owners have been targeted by what he considers overzealous government agents. The case was closed.

Nugent said he's "blessed with just unbelievable energy." □



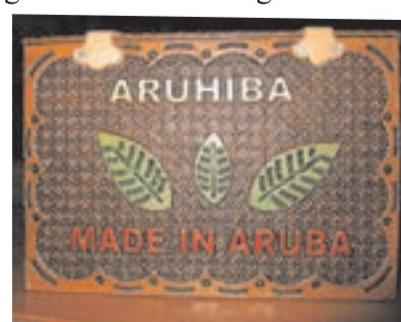
This Aug. 16, 2013 file photo shows Ted Nugent performing at Rams Head Live in Baltimore.
Associated Press

Aruhiba Cigars, Aruba's only hand rolled cigars! *t's a matter of prestige and quality...*



ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. With any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. Aruhiba gift boxes are now available at Dufry Shop at the Airport.

For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also available at their Tobacco farm where their cigars are grown and rolled.



For a group or private tour, call 586 0347 - 593 6177 or send them an email at aruhibacigars@gmail.com

Kris and Bruce Jenner confirm they've split up

NEW YORK (AP) — Kris and Bruce Jenner have confirmed they separated a year ago, after 22 years together.

In an interview with US magazine hitting newsstands Friday, Kris Jenner says there's no animosity between them. She says they're committed to their family.

Her former Olympic champion husband says they'll always love and respect each other.

News of the split was first reported by E! News.

The couple has two teenage daughters, Kendall and Kylie. Kris Jenner is the mother of Kim Kardashian and Khloe Kardashian Odom as well as Robert and Kourtney Kardashian. They say no divorce pa-



This cover image released by US Weekly shows the exclusive announcement about the break-up of celebrity couple Bruce Jenner and Kris Jenner.

Associated Press

pers have been filed and that Bruce will continue to appear on "Keeping up with the Kardashians." □



This combo of photos shows Jimmy Kimmel seen in a Jan. 25, 2013 file photo left and Kanye West seen in a May 23, 2012 file photo.

Associated Press

Kanye West to guest on Kimmel's show after 'rap feud'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — ABC says Kanye West is appearing on Jimmy Kimmel's late-night show, less than two weeks after the pair got into what Kimmel called a "rap feud."

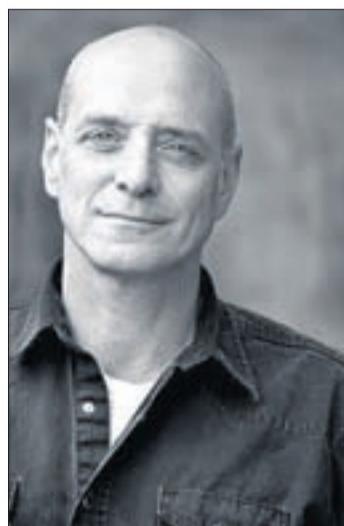
The musician will be a guest Wednesday on "Jimmy Kimmel Live," the network said Tuesday.

In late September, Kimmel's show aired a skit that mocked a West radio interview by having a child re-create it. West

responded with an irate phone call to Kimmel and a series of Twitter messages that labeled the comedian out of line and unfunny.

Discussing the incident on his show last month, a smiling Kimmel said he always wanted to be in a rap feud. The talk show host is known for his parodies and pranks, including a recent staged twerking accident video that became an online sensation. □

Author traces harrowing U.S. nuclear near misses



This undated photo provided by The Penguin Press on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013, shows Eric Schlosser, author of the new book "Command and Control."

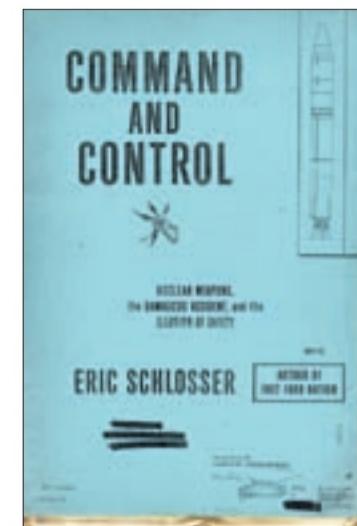
Associated Press

DINESH RAMDE

Associated Press

"Command and Control" (The Penguin Press), by Eric Schlosser

Three days after John F. Kennedy's inauguration, a B-52 went into an uncontrolled spin above North Carolina, sending a pair of fully operational hydrogen bombs plunging toward the ground. The firing sequence initiated in one bomb, as one safety mechanism after another failed. The only thing that prevented the 4-megaton thermonuclear bomb from exploding on American soil was one final mechanism that remained in the safe position. The other bomb landed in a nearby swamp. Its explosives also remained intact, but the uranium core sank more than 70 feet and has never been found. The gripping



account, which had been buried in confidential files since 1961, is one of many harrowing tales recounted by Eric Schlosser in his latest investigative masterpiece,

"Command and Control: Nuclear Weapons, the Damascus Accident, and the Illusion of Safety."

Using the Freedom of Information Act, the author of "Fast Food Nation" and "Reefer Madness" uncovered a trove of recently declassified documents about the nation's nuclear program. The tale they tell is often frightening.

In the past 50 years there have been scores of incidents in which U.S. nuclear weapons were dropped during transport or allowed to degrade to dangerous conditions due to poor storage. In other cases, nuclear bombs were left under such limited security

that the weapons could easily have been stolen or set off by rogue elements inside or outside the American military.

The book details so many near misses that it's almost hard to believe that what happened intentionally in Hiroshima and Nagasaki has never happened by accident in a single U.S. city. The topic of nuclear weaponry is by its nature complicated. But Schlosser's ability to present complex issues in easily readable terms makes the book a comfortable — if not comforting — read.

Schlosser describes how nuclear weapons work, and how early scientists grappled with technological limitations in building the bombs. He also traces the politics of the last half-century, providing context for why the U.S. government felt such a need to strengthen and always add to its nuclear arsenal. But Schlosser's most riveting work lies in a tale woven throughout the entire book. He relates the story of a nuclear crisis in 1980 that could have leveled much of Arkansas, or at least sent a massive poisonous cloud of radioactive gas sweeping across the state.

Workers in Damascus, Ark., had been performing routine maintenance on a Titan II missile, which housed a 9-megaton thermonuclear warhead. □

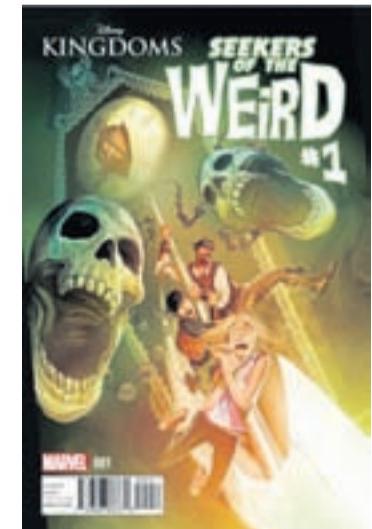
Marvel, Disney unveil 1st comic under new imprint

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Marvel Comics and Disney will publish a comic book inspired by Disneyland's fabled but never built Museum of the Weird as the first title under its "Disney Kingdoms" banner.

The five-issue miniseries titled "Seekers of the Weird" will go on sale in January and is written by Brandon Seifert and illustrated by Karl Moline. Disney's Rolly Crump created the museum in 1965 as a walk-

through attraction filled with mystical and magical curiosities from around the world that was to be connected to the Haunted Mansion. After Walt Disney died, the designs remained on the drawing board.

The story centers on teens Maxwell and Melody who must find their kidnapped parents by making their way through the museum. The Walt Disney Co. acquired Marvel for \$4.2 billion in 2009. □



This comic book image released by Marvel shows the first issue of Disney Kingdoms "Seekers of the Weird."

Associated Press

Governing By Blackmail



NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF

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Suppose President Barack Obama announced:

"Unless Republicans agree to my proposal for gun control, I will use my authority as commander in chief to scuttle one aircraft carrier a week in the bottom of the ocean.

"I invite Republican leaders to come to the White House and negotiate a deal to preserve our military strength. I hope Republicans will work with me to prevent the loss of our carrier fleet.

"If the Republicans refuse to negotiate, I will be compelled to begin by scuttling the USS George Washington in the Pacific Ocean's Mariana Trench, with 80 aircraft on board."

In that situation, we would all agree that Obama had gone nuts. Whatever his beefs with Republicans, it would be an inexcusable betrayal to try to get his way by destroying our national assets. That would be an abuse of power and the worst kind of blackmail.

And in that kind of situation, I would hope that we as journalists wouldn't describe the resulting furor as a "political impasse" or "partisan gridlock." I hope that we wouldn't settle for quoting politicians on each side as blaming the other.

It would be appropriate to point out the obvious: Our president had tumbled over the edge and was endangering the nation.

Today, we have a similar situation, except that it's a band of extremist House Republicans who are deliberately sabotaging America's economy and damaging our national security - all in hopes of gaining leverage on unrelated issues.

The shutdown of government by House Republicans has already cost at least \$1.2 billion, with the tab increasing by \$300 million a day. Some estimates are much higher than that.

The 1995 and 1996 shutdowns cost the country \$2.1 billion at today's value, and the current one is also likely to end up costing billions - a cost imposed on every citizen by House Republicans, even as members of Congress pay themselves.

The government shutdown and risk of default also undermine America's strength around the world. It's not just that 72 percent of the intelligence community's civilian workforce has been furloughed. It's not simply that "the jeopardy to the safety and security of this country will increase" daily, according to James R.

Clapper Jr., the director of national intelligence.

Nor is it just that the White House telephone number is now answered with a recording that says to call back when government is functioning again. It's not simply that several countries have issued travel advisories about visiting America.

It's not just that we're mocked worldwide, with the French newspaper *Le Monde* writing: "Jefferson, wake up! They've gone crazy!"

Rather, it's that America's strength and influence derive in part from the success of our political and economic model. When House Republicans shut our government down and leave us teetering on the abyss of default, we are a diminished nation. We have less influence. We have less raw power, as surely as if we had fewer aircraft carriers.

Some Americans think that this crisis reflects typical partisan squabbling. No. Democrats and Republicans have always disagreed, sometimes ferociously, about what economic policy is best, but, in the past, it was not normal for either to sabotage the economy as a negotiating tactic.

In a household, husbands and wives disagree passionately about high-stakes issues like how to raise children. But normal people do not announce that, if their spouse does not give in, they will break all the windows in the house.

Hard-line House Republicans seem to think that their ability to inflict pain on 800,000 federal workers by furloughing them without pay gives them bargaining chips.

The hard-liners apparently believe that their negotiating position is strengthened when they demonstrate that they can wreck American governance.

The stakes rise as we approach the debt limit and the risk of default - which the Treasury Department notes could have an impact like that of the 2008 financial crisis and "has the potential to be catastrophic." Astonishingly, Republican hard-liners see that potential catastrophe as a source of bargaining power in a game of extortion: We don't want anything to happen to this fine American economy as we approach the debt limit, so you'd better meet our demands. In this situation, it strikes a false note for us as journalists to cover the crisis simply by quoting each side as blaming the other. That's a false equivalency.

The last time House Republicans played politics with this debt limit, in 2011, Standard & Poor's downgraded America's credit rating. In the long run, that may mean higher debt payments and higher taxes.

My opening example of a president scuttling naval ships was ludicrous. No one would do that. But if we default because of extremist House Republicans, the cost could be much greater to our economy and to our national security than the loss of a few aircraft carriers. □

DEMOCRACY AT WORK...



WHITE HOUSE



OUTHOUSE

mois
CARTOONS

Pope Francis: Promise And Peril



ROSS DOUTHAT

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To understand Pope Francis - his purpose, his program and its potential pitfalls - it's useful to think about what's been happening to New York City's Jews.

From the 1950s on, New York's Jewish population declined, amid suburbanization and assimilation. But over the last 10 years, the numbers began to rise again, climbing 10 percent between 2002 and 2011.

But this growth was almost all among Orthodox Jews. The city's Reform and Conservative populations continued to drop, as did Jewish religious observance overall.

As a result, New York's Jewish community is increasingly polarized, with more Jews at the most traditional end of the theological spectrum, more Jews entirely detached from the institutions of their ancestral faith - and ever-fewer observant Jews anywhere in the middle. What's happened in New York is happening nationally: A recent Pew study found a similar pattern of growth among the Orthodox and a similar waning of religious practice and affiliation in the rest of the American Jewish population.

This is not just a Jewish story. It's been the story of religion in the West for over 40 years. The most traditional groups have been relatively resilient. The more liberal, modernizing bodies have lost membership, money, morale. And the culture as a whole has become steadily more disengaged from organized faith. There is still a religious middle today,

but it isn't institutionally Judeo-Christian in the way it was in 1945. Instead, it's defined by nondenominational ministries, "spiritual but not religious" pieties and ancient heresies reinvented as self-help.

Of late, this process of polarization has carried an air of inevitability. You can hew to a traditional faith in late modernity, it has seemed, only to the extent that you separate yourself from the American and Western mainstream. There is no middle ground, no center that holds for long, and the attempt to find one quickly leads to accommodation, drift and dissolution.

And this is where Pope Francis comes in, because so much of the excitement around his pontificate is a response to his obvious desire to reject these alternatives - self-segregation or surrender - in favor of an almost-frantic engagement with the lapsed-Catholic, post-Catholic and non-Catholic world.

The idea of such engagement - of a "new evangelization," a "new springtime" for Christianity - is hardly a novel one for the Vatican. But Francis' style and substance are pitched much more aggressively to a world that often tuned out his predecessors. His deliberate demystification of the papacy, his digressive interviews with outlets secular and religious, his calls for experimentation within the church and his softer tone on the issues - abortion, gay marriage - where traditional religion and the culture are in sharpest conflict: These are not doctrinal changes, but they are clear strategic shifts.

John Allen Jr., one of the keenest observers of the Vatican, has called Francis a "pope for the Catholic middle," positioned somewhere between the church's rigorists and the progressives who pine to Episcopalianize the faith.

But the significance of this positioning goes beyond Catholicism. In words and gestures, Francis seems to be determined to recreate, or regain, the kind of center that has

failed to hold in every major Western faith.

So far, he has at least gained the world's attention. The question is whether that attention will translate into real interest in the pope's underlying religious message or whether the culture will simply claim him for its own - finally, a pope who doesn't harsh our buzz! - without being inspired to actually consider Christianity anew.

In the uncertain reaction to Francis from many conservative Catholics, you can see the fear that the second possibility is more likely.

Their anxiety is not that the new pope is about to radically change church teaching, since part of being a conservative Catholic is believing that such a change can't happen. Rather, they fear that the center he's trying to seize will crumble beneath him, because the chasm between the culture and orthodox faith is simply too immense.

And they worry as well that we have seen something like his strategy attempted before, when the church's 1970s-era emphasis on social justice, liturgical improvisation and casual-cool style had disappointing results: not a rich engagement with modern culture but a surrender to that culture's "Me Decade" manifestations - producing tacky liturgy, ugly churches, Jonathan Livingston Seagull theology and ultimately empty pews.

Francis seems acquainted with that danger - witness his warnings against a church that just "becomes an NGO," or against reducing Christianity to "taking a spiritual bath in the cosmos."

But the test of his approach will ultimately be a practical one. Will the church grow or stagnate under his leadership? Will his style just win casual admirers, or will it gain converts, inspire vocations, create saints? Will it actually change the world, or just give the worldly another excuse to close their ears to the church's moral message?

By his fruits we will know - but not for some time yet. □

Sports Beginning To See The Energy-Efficient Light

KEN BELSON

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Alain Gauthier, who runs the Bell Centre, home of the Montreal Canadiens, wrestled with a problem confronting arena and stadium operators all over: large arrays of energy-sapping light bulbs.

Since the arena opened in 1996, Gauthier spent hundreds of thousands of dollars a year lighting the hockey rink with 104 fixtures holding 1,500-watt high-intensity discharge, or HID, lamps, and even more money cooling and replacing them. While fans barely noticed, the lights also produced a tint and flicker that irked broadcasters.

So last year, Gauthier replaced all his older lights with 140 costlier light-emitting diode fixtures, or LEDs, which produce three times as much light on the ice for each watt of energy and last far longer - an investment that he says will take only about two years to pay back. He expects to save about \$125,000 a year on electricity, parts and labor.

"I wanted to be a front-runner," is how he explains the switch.

For now, Gauthier is a lonely front-runner in sports lighting, although LEDs are gaining wider adoption in airports, stores and many other places. While other sports locations use LEDs to light scoreboards, concession stands and the like, the Bell Centre is the only pro sports site in North America to use only LEDs to light its playing surface.

Other operators have resisted making the switch, even though so-called performance lights are the No. 1 or No. 2 consumers of electricity in arenas and stadiums. A big reason, here and with other large-scale energy-saving projects, is the payback period, the time it takes for such an investment to pay for itself through savings. While prices vary widely, LEDs cost about \$1,500 each, roughly four times as much as incandescent lamps. For operators with

money invested in stocks of older lights or building upgrades incorporating them, the payback period can be more than three years, industry experts said. "Definitely, there are some long-term savings," said Sean Langer, director of operations at the KFC Yum

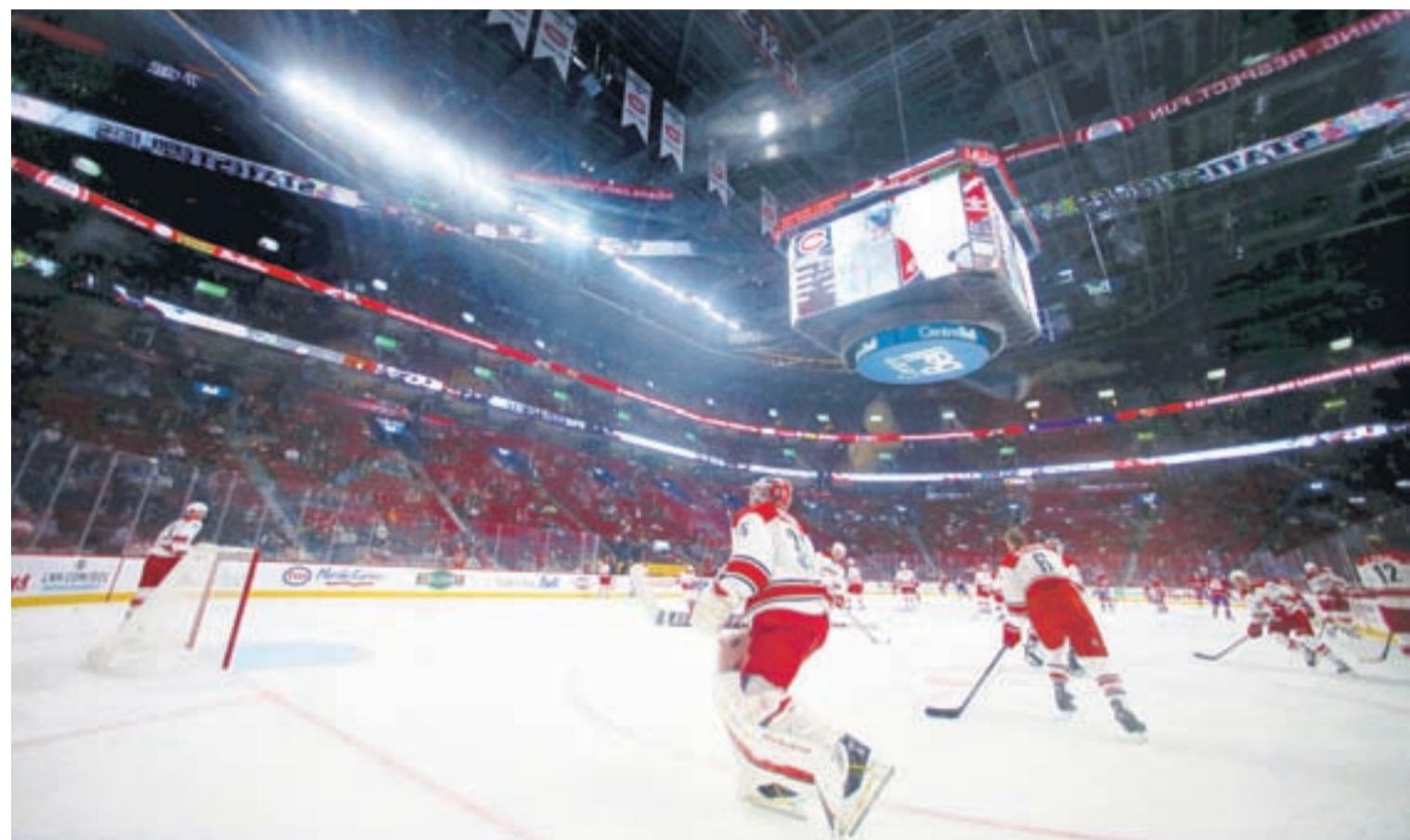
cable that are often connected to other fixtures. It's like setting up a chain of 500 computers, and it's a lot harder than just plugging in your home computer."

Sports leagues are studying LEDs and gathering the opinions of players, refer-

lets arena operators use, say, 80 percent of their capacity during games (100 percent is often unnecessary) and 30 percent when crews clean the arena. Because LEDs are programmable, operators can easily create light shows and in-game promotions.

by brightening and dimming the lights, players can overcome jet lag faster and become energized before games and cool down afterward.

"Living in Seattle, people talk about the seasonal disorder and cloudy days, but I didn't think there was



LED lights in the rafters of the Bell Centre hockey arena as the Carolina Hurricanes take on the Montreal Canadiens in Montreal. The Bell Centre is the only pro sports site in North America to use only LEDs to light its playing surface.

(Christinne Muschi/The New York Times)

Center in Louisville, Ky., home of University of Louisville basketball. "But we have to ask, what is the return on investment? Seven to 10 years is a hard pill for my boss to swallow."

Other factors limiting adoption are more specific to sports. LEDs do an excellent job of lighting specific locations, but illuminating wider spaces - like baseball, football and soccer fields - is more problematic. And some broadcasters are reluctant to use LEDs in TV studios at stadiums, because they are more complicated to install.

"With conventional technology, you plug the light into an outlet controlled by a lighting console," said Mick Smith, senior designer at Ferri Lighting Design & Associates, which has installed LED lights in television studios. "LEDs are intelligent fixtures. They each need a power and data

ees and broadcasters. But teams have varying priorities, because their buildings vary by age and architecture. Nine NHL teams share arenas with NBA teams, and each league has its own lighting rules. Leagues must vet manufacturers for cost and reliability.

"It's something that is going to happen; it's just a question of when we are going to release our standards," said Omar Mitchell, the head of sustainability at the NHL. "If it's good, we should be doing it."

He and other sports and lighting experts said that, as their price fell, LEDs would be adopted more widely as performance lights. They switch on and off instantly. Their brightness and lack of flicker show well on high-definition television, especially slow-motion replays. For further energy efficiency, they are dimmable, which

"It's not only to replace existing lamps, but bringing operators into a new world to create effects and game presentation," said Jean-Louis Legault, the president of LED Innovation Design, the Canadian lighting company behind the Bell Centre's new system. "Every single lamp is an addressable pixel."

Perhaps the most novel use of LEDs will be in clubhouses, where they have the potential to alter the game subtly by changing players' moods. LEDs can be fine-tuned to simulate daylight and to try to recalibrate players' circadian clocks.

The Seattle Mariners, for instance, worked with John Hwang, the chief executive of PlanLED, to replace fluorescent lights with LEDs this summer in the team's locker room, training room, dining room and weight room. The team hopes that

a way to overcome it," said Scott Jenkins, head of ballpark operations for the Mariners.

"We can make the clubhouse a place where the players want to spend time and it supports their performance."

While the impact of LEDs on human physiology is still emerging, "there is a lot of basic scientific support for why they should," said Steven W. Lockley, a professor in the Division of Sleep Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

Jenkins and Hwang said they would need a full season to assess the lights more precisely, but early reactions from players and coaches suggest that the lights have great potential. "We can mimic what we would consider the ideal light environment for humans," Hwang said. "It's the introductory level, but we feel it's historic." □